everyone counts

Metro Denver's Point in Time Survey

2019 POINT IN TIME REPORT

Metro Denver Continum of Care

metro denver homeless initiative | mdhi

FIRST,
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

This is the eighteenth Point in Time (PIT) study organized by the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI). This tremendous effort would not be possible without the support of everyone who participated in this year's count and contributed to this report. MDHI partnered with OMNI Institute who, alongside MDHI staff, prepared the data for our community report.

We would like to extend many thanks to all the participating agencies listed in the Appendix of this report who contributed both staff and volunteer time and gave their time and energy to aid in the administration and planning of this count. Additional thanks to everyone who served as leads for their communities and specific populations and served on the PIT Committee to coordinate this massive regional undertaking. The members of the 2019 PIT Committee are listed to the right.

We thank our sponsors who provided in-kind and financial support to our efforts this year. We were able to distribute thousands of new socks, cold weather gear, snacks, hygiene supplies, and much more to the people in our community in need of resources. Your contributions were a great resource to us while administering the PIT and provided incentive to participate for people taking the survey.

We would also like to acknowledge the work of the community volunteers who administered this survey. Hundreds of volunteers from service providers, church communities, and dedicated neighbors went out into the snow on the day of the PIT to make sure that everyone was counted to the best of our ability.

We could not do this yearly report without the support of the people in our communities and for that we are eternally grateful.

Diane Alumno,
US Department of Veteran's Affairs, Eastern Colorado Healthcare System

Linda Barringer,
Heading Home of Jefferson County

Lindsey Christopher,
Violence Free Colorado

Rand Clark, Douglas County

Midori Higa, Saint Francis Center

Sydney Hawkins, City of Aurora

Diane Howald,
Regional PIT Coordinator, MDHI

Shelley McKittrick, City of Aurora

Scott Medina,
Boulder BridgeHouse

Angela Nelson,
Denver's Road Home

Sam Olson, Adams County

Cheryl Secorski, CO DOLA Office of Homeless Youth Services

Cameron Shropshire, Stride Health Centers, Arapahoe County

Cheryl St. Clair,
City and County of Broomfield

Morgan Wieziolowski,
AmeriCorps VISTA

Special thanks to those who provided direct financial support to buy much needed items that were not donated, such as bus tickets and handwarmers. You really came through for our community on a cold and snowy day. Our sincere gratitude to: Natasia Van Meer, Rachel Howald, the City of Boulder, Jennifer Biess, Carey Maynard-Moody, Lindsay Paige, Ian Fitzpatrick, Christina Lindgren, Cary Thomas, Heather Hurd, Lu Horner, and Megan Nyce.

Finally, MDHI would like to share our greatest appreciation for Morgan Wieziolowski. After completing her year of service as an AmeriCorps VISTA member, Morgan extended her service to the metro Denver community for an additional three months specifically to serve as our Point in Time Volunteer and Donations Coordinator. We couldn't have done it without you, Morgan, Thank you!

AND A SPECIAL
THANK YOU
GOES TO

SAFEWAY

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THRIFT STORES

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DISPENSARY

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Soopers

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McDonald's

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THE MILE HIGH CITY

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Promotional Products

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BIG 5
SPORTING GOODS

Little Caesars
Pizza

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CERTIFIED ORGANIC
HEALTHY BODY CARE
USDA ORGANIC

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LETTER FROM THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Reader,

You have in front of you the 2019 Metro Denver Point in Time (PIT) Report. This report is our region's contribution to a national effort to establish each year on one night in January the number of people experiencing homelessness throughout the United States. While there are many methodological limitations with PIT (thoroughly documented within the report), it remains central in our efforts to end homelessness in our region for two fundamental reasons. First, it is the most comprehensive count of people who are living unsheltered in Metro Denver. Second, it is the mechanism that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) uses to measure our region's success in addressing homelessness and subsequently the amount of funding our region is awarded. For these reasons, and despite its limitations, the PIT is consequential and demands our attention.

On January 28, 2019, there were 5,755 people experiencing homelessness in our region. This represents an increase of 438 people or 8% from 2018. Given our region's strong economy (e.g., 29% of Metro Denver companies report hiring additional positions during this time period and a 3% unemployment rate) it must shock us into action seeing this increase in homelessness amongst our most vulnerable community members. Within this increase we do see indicators of positive changes this year, decreases in the number of both people identified as Chronically and Newly Homeless (See Glossary for definitions). At the same time the data demonstrates significant inequity exists for African Americans and Native Americans, both disproportionately represented amongst people experiencing homelessness. These positive and negative findings require further investigation to understand their root causes so we can continue to advance the positive changes and redress the systemic racism perpetuating inequity.

As you read the 2019 Metro Denver PIT Report, please bear in mind that each statistic represents real people, our neighbors, living within our communities without housing and the negative impacts this has on their health and safety. Each person represented in this report has their own unique story and it is imperative that we remember the humanity this report seeks to illustrate. It is easy to lose sight of these simple and important facts as we compare rates, focus on sub-populations, and allocate precious community resources.

Finally, the PIT represents a major regional effort to accomplish this. Over 500 people, our neighbors, volunteered their time to reach out and engage with people experiencing homeless. Without the contribution of these volunteers the PIT is simply not possible. Thank you. If upon reading this report you find yourself feeling a call to action, I want to encourage you to follow your neighbors' lead and take the step to join our efforts to end homelessness. Throughout our region there are ongoing efforts in faith-based communities, community-based organizations and local nonprofit organizations that need and welcome people wanting to lend a hand. If you don't know where to start, please contact the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative and we will assist you in finding a place for you to offer your service.

Sincerely,

Matthew Meyer, PhD
Executive Director
Metro Denver Homeless Initiative

1 | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Point in Time is a data point that gives us information about our community on a single night in the wintertime. This can be used to reference "any given night" in the winter months. There were 5,755 people counted in the seven-county metro Denver region as experiencing literal homelessness (on the street or outside, in shelter, or in transitional housing) on the night of January 28th, 2019. This is an increase over the 2018 count of 5,317 and was seen entirely in sheltered numbers. The number of people living outside that night that were found and surveyed was 946 – a considerable decrease over the 1308 in 2018. However, in 2018 it was 58 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) that day – and a much easier night to be outside than the snowy, freezing day of the 2019 PIT. This shows some of the variability of using a single night count, especially in regard to weather. It also tells us that at least 946 people felt sleeping outside in this weather was their best option that night.

A single data point is not enough to build a picture of homelessness. MDHI is working to continue strengthening the use of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) across our region and the state to provide real-time, accurate data on the scope of this issue and the need for services. In contrast to the PIT, HMIS data covers more than a single night – it can be used to view data over a month, a season, a year, or multiple years. It is as accurate and comprehensive as we as a community make it. If all agencies serving those experiencing homelessness use this database, it will be able to tell us an immense amount of useful information, evaluate the effectiveness of our programming, and help service providers locate people when housing becomes available.

The data presented in the 2019 Point in Time report will be followed up with our Housing Inventory Count. This year's sheltered data is the most accurate it has ever been. Every single person counted in the PIT in a sheltered situation can be matched 1-to-1 to a project or motel voucher in each community down to the county level. Our agencies reported that 3,096 people were in emergency shelter situations, 35 in safe haven programs, and 1,678 were in transitional housing. Communities will be able to use these reports to look at their available shelter beds, the corresponding utilization, and the need seen that day as evidenced by the count. Emergency shelters were utilized at 95%. Transitional housing programs had only 71% of beds filled. Program evaluation is needed to determine how effective programs are in meeting the needs of our population, as well as in both permanent housing outcomes and cost effectiveness.

The Point in Time is often considered an undercount of homelessness. We are quickly moving to a place where this is no longer true of our sheltered count. We have a full count of persons staying in sheltered situations that participate in the PIT. It is certain that the survey of those living unsheltered in our region is an undercount – though by how much, we are unable to say right now. MDHI is working to help counties and the full region evaluate the unsheltered outreach coverage for the PIT. We are developing this insight based on information received from PIT committee coordinators on their community's efforts during the 2019 unsheltered count. More attention and resources need to be given to outreach efforts to increase coverage and obtain an accurate representation of who is

staying in unsheltered situations across the metro area. Sheltered numbers coming largely from HMIS in 2020 will allow those resources to go to the unsheltered count. Individual cities and communities also need to prioritize this effort in order to receive more accurate data.

The Point in Time count is currently our best method for evaluating how many people are living unsheltered, in addition to it being a requirement for millions of dollars in federal housing funds. One of MDHI's goals is that these PIT efforts start laying the groundwork towards a goal of a collaborative, regional, year-round, street outreach plan. Then the PIT can become an annual effort to connect people to regionally available system access points with established services as part of a regional homeless crisis response system. PIT outreach will then serve as an evaluation and improvement opportunity for our By-Name-List of known people in need of housing in our communities.

The Point in Time brings together our community of providers, government, communities of faith, and volunteers for a common goal. This engagement can serve as a building block towards the partnership that is needed to end homelessness. Homelessness is in large part a failure of our systems and a result of trauma. When our services available for mental health, substance abuse and treatment, foster care and family welfare, and affordable housing availability don't meet the need, people suffer. One agency or community alone will not end homelessness. Our community needs to work across systems, work across city and county boundaries, and come together using proven solutions and best practices to end homelessness. Functional Zero is a reality. It is possible, and we can do it together.

everyone counts
Metro Denver 2019

By The Numbers

Total Count
5,755

Newly Homeless
691

Chronically Homeless
1,158

Number of Literally Homeless

	2017	2018	2019
	5,116	5,317	5,755
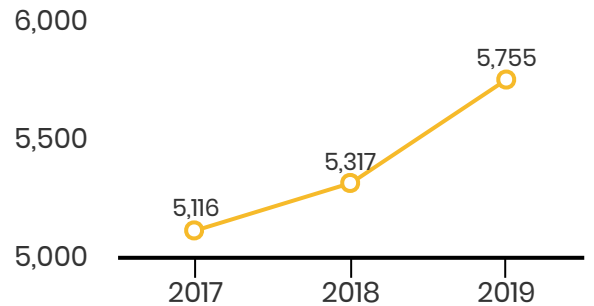
Populations

627 **Veterans**
People self-reporting service in the U.S. Military

429 **Families**
Households with at least one adult and one child under 18 years old; there were a total of 1402 people in these households

283 **Unaccompanied Youth**
Persons under age 25 who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian and are not a parenting youth

542 **Fleeing Domestic Violence**
People actively fleeing a situation of domestic or interpersonal violence

Where People Stayed

946 Unsheltered

3096 Emergency Shelter

Emergency Shelter Beds Available 2712

Severe Weather Shelter Beds Available 552

1678 Transitional Housing

Transitional Housing Beds Available 2358

The Regional Population Breakdown

Adams 483

Arapahoe 228

Boulder 623

Broomfield 30

Denver 3943

Douglas 14

Jefferson 434

11%   <1%   8%   8%   4%   69%   <1%
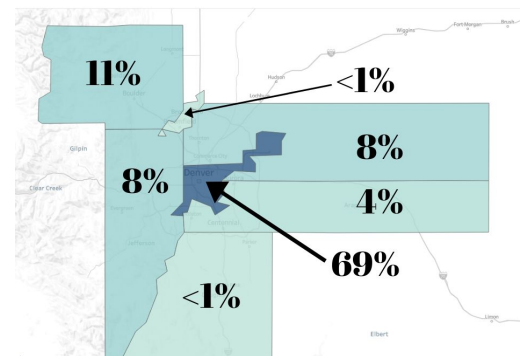
This data is provided by the MDHI Point in Time count: a one-night snapshot of literal homelessness in our communities. It was conducted on the night of January 28th, 2019. For more information, visit **www.mdhi.org/pit_reports**

WHAT IS THE ──────────

POINT IN TIME?

The **Point in Time (PIT)** count is an annual survey of people experiencing homelessness in communities on a single evening in January. The 2019 PIT count for Metro Denver, called **Everyone Counts**[1], asked people across the region where they spent the night of Monday, **January 28, 2019**.

Everyone Counts provides a "snapshot" of a single night and the resulting data is meant to be representative of homelessness "on any given night," particularly during the winter months when PIT counts are conducted.

The annual PIT count for the Metro Denver region is organized and guided by the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) and includes persons experiencing literal homelessness in the following seven counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, and Jefferson.

1 https://everyonecounts.mdhi.org/

2 | INTRODUCTION

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that all Continuums of Care (CoC) nationwide complete annual PIT counts that focus on one night during the last 10 days of January.

Implementation of the local PIT count is the responsibility of MDHI as it is the lead agency for the Metro Denver CoC. Communities across the nation follow the latest HUD methodology guidelines[2] for the count and tailor the survey to the needs of their own localities.

PIT counts produce a standard set of data, comparable and available nationwide, which HUD provides to Congress in its Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR).[3]   As of FY 2018, the Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA)[4] has replaced the AHAR data submission process for CoCs.

These efforts help communities learn about the scope of literal homelessness in their area and provide information needed for the development of plans to appropriately address local needs, including services, housing, and possible gaps in the community's current homeless assistance system.

HUD DEFINES HOMELESSNESS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE PIT COUNT IN 24 CFR 578.3[5] AS:

LITERAL HOMELESSNESS

CoCs must count all individuals or families who meet the criteria in paragraph (1)(ii) of the homeless definition in 24 CFR part 578.3. This is HUD's category 1 homelessness definition, and includes individuals and families...

SHELTERED COUNT

"...living in a supervised publicly or privately-operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals)..."

UNSHELTERED COUNT

"...with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground..."

INTRODUCTION ───────────────────────

PIT data is reported to HUD, often cited in the media, and used for community planning and grant writing. Service providers, faith-based organizations, local governments, and others utilize this information to guide and fund their service delivery. Participating in Point in Time efforts encourages cross-sector, local and regional collaboration to address homelessness.

MDHI oversees PIT coordination and planning across the seven-county Denver metropolitan area, along with support from county, regional, and population specific coordinators as part of MDHI's PIT Committee. Representatives from homeless service agencies, other stakeholders, and interested community members work with the MDHI Point in Time Coordinator in implementing the PIT count at each count site and outreach area. Starting at sundown on the night of the count, trained volunteers, service providers, and staff interview individuals and families experiencing homelessness using a standardized survey form developed by MDHI.

Families and individuals are surveyed at a variety of locations, including overnight and day shelters, transitional housing facilities, and service agencies, as well as at "magnet" events held for the PIT count. Outreach occurs across the CoC geography by trained staff and volunteers to known or suspected outdoor sleeping areas and camps. PIT counts are currently the CoC's best method for determining how many people are living unsheltered in Metro Denver due to the comprehensive regional scope of the effort. People experiencing homelessness who are living unsheltered prove challenging to enumerate, as they may not want to be found, seek assistance at agency locations, or may be averse to available shelter options for a variety of reasons. Survey results are supplemented with available data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and other agency databases. The data from these sources is then compiled, de-duplicated, and analyzed for HUD and public reporting.

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Nationwide PIT data
is available to the
public on the
HUD exchange [6].

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2 https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4036/point-in-time-count-methodology-guide
3 https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hdx/guides/ahar/#reports
4 https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/lsa
5 https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CFR-2013-title24-vol3/pdf/CFR-2013-title24-vol3-sec578-3.pdf
6 https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/coc-homeless-populations-and-subpopulations-reports

3 | LIMITATIONS & CONSIDERATIONS

WHAT WE NEED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT

The Point in Time count gives us information on a specific duration of time (one night) and definition of homelessness. It gives us information that is generally replicable and comparable nationwide, and as such it has been used to inform our elected officials and local agencies on this crisis in our country.

As the CoC continually evaluates and works to improve coverage and increase accuracy, the accompanying methodology varies. For example, in 2018, the regional community greatly increased its outreach coordination over previous years, and the 2018 unsheltered count total increased 42% over 2017 numbers. It is not possible to say with the PIT data alone how much of the phenomenon is truly an increase in people living outside in the metro area and how much is due to increased efforts to find and survey them. Further, variability in PIT data alone does not necessarily equate to an increase or decrease in homelessness. This makes year to year comparisons challenging but keeps an important focus on improving accuracy and coverage. Therefore, year to year comparisons need to take these methodological variables into account.

Additionally, the PIT does not capture what homelessness looks like for every family and individual, particularly those who may cycle between literal homelessness and "at-risk" of literal homelessness. People in temporary living situations or who are at risk of becoming homeless (such as those staying with friends or family, paying themselves to stay in a motel, or under threat of eviction) are not included in the PIT count. These situations fall under the definition of HUD's Category 2 of homelessness. Also, remember that the PIT data is based on a single night. It does not cover an entire season or year to show the full scope of a community's experience and presence of homelessness.

There are other factors that may affect a one-day count of people, including the unpredictable weather in January in our area, availability of volunteers, participant's willingness and ability to answer questions, and the variable engagement of all seven counties and forty municipalities across a region covering just over 4,500 square miles.[8] The final important limitation to consider is that all data presented is based on the self-report of participants and not independently verified.

USING MULTIPLE DATA SOURCES

More effective than any single data point.

WINTER WEATHER

Affects a person's choice/ability to seek shelter.

SELF-REPORTED DATA

PIT data is based on self-report and not independently verified.

7 CoC Homeless Populations and Subpopulations Reports
8 http://www.metrodenver.org/do-business/demographics

OTHER SOURCES

As data systems improve and cross-sector collaboration increases, combining sources of information to present a full picture of homelessness is more effective than any single data point and is a priority in the metro Denver CoC. The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) states, "PIT data is not sufficient in and of itself to [understand the scale of the need for homelessness services] and should be augmented with other sources of data and methodologies that can help project risks and needs."[9]

There are two other readily available data points in Colorado regarding homelessness.

HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS)

A single, reliable database across the continuum of homelessness.

Currently, the best identified practice is a community-wide coordinated approach utilizing a shared data system, a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). [10]

CoCs are required to use this database for federally funded housing interventions, and HMIS is more effective when utilized by all who engage those experiencing homelessness – from outreach to shelter to housing. MDHI contracted with a new HMIS software vendor to bring online and support a statewide HMIS database to better support the need for real-time data and improved coordination across agencies. The new system launched in December 2018, one month prior to the January 2019 count. It is a priority of the CoC to have future sheltered data come directly from HMIS in order to increase accuracy, be more trauma informed, and free up resources for outreach engagement efforts.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS PROGRAMS DATA

Operates on an expanded service definition of homelessness.

This definition, which includes all HUD categories of homelessness, is as follows: children or youth who lack a fixed, regular, or adequate nighttime residence. This includes children that are temporarily staying with others or self-paying in motels, for example.

The number of McKinney-Vento identified school children is much larger than in the PIT count. Though, despite the wider definition and expanded time frame of approximately nine months of a full school year, this data set is also not a complete picture on its own. The main limitation here being that the number only reflects school-aged children and does not include other younger children, adults in the household, unaccompanied youth not attending school, or homelessness experienced over the summer months when families are out of school. More information is available on the Colorado Department of Education's website. [11]

MDHI is currently working in partnership with the State Department of Education and other community stakeholders to develop a more accurate picture of the state of youth and family homelessness in our community.

9 USICH, Navigating Homelessness and Housing Needs Data, March 2019
10 https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hmis/
11 http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/homeless_index

WINTER WEATHER

Drops in temperature and the presence of precipitation affect a person's choice and ability to seek shelter and volunteers' ability to find those who spend the night unsheltered. On the day/night of the 2019 PIT count, we had a major winter weather event in the metro Denver region that has not occurred on a PIT night in several years.

Snow total across metro Denver on Jan 28, 2019:

Up to 12"

Zero precipitation in 2018 or 2017.

Temperature in Denver on Jan 28, 2019:

High 31°F Low 7°F

High 58°F in 2018. High 63°F in 2017.

Donna Bryson, Denverite

As would be expected during a winter weather event, more people were in shelter and less were unsheltered. However, there were still 946 people found and surveyed who reported being unsheltered in our community on January 28, 2019, a cold and snowy night.

Providers, staff, and volunteers shared anecdotal stories from people they met during the PIT count this year. There were reports from surveyors describing people they met who were able to find a place to stay just for the night with a friend or those who combined their money to rent a motel room to get out of the snow.

On this Monday in January, it was a newsworthy cold snap with surrounding days reaching highs of 50 degrees. Also, the snow started very early in the day, which may have given people time and possibly leverage to find options for the night.

Some local providers reported they believed that some populations, especially families, youth, and those who were newly homeless had places they were able to stay for the night in light of the extreme conditions – but that are not available to them over a longer period, even a week. These households may have otherwise been counted during the Point in Time that night, but it is not possible to say with certainty or to what extent.

HOUSING INVENTORY COUNT (HIC) DATA

The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) is submitted to HUD on an annual basis in conjunction with Point in Time data.

The HIC represents an inventory of housing available at the national and state level, as well as for each CoC. The report tallies the number of beds and units available on the night designated for the Point in Time Count by project type and only includes beds dedicated to serve persons who are homeless. The HIC acts as the supply side to the PIT's demand and highlights utilization of resources. This is particularly important as communities look to understand gaps and need for shelter or housing resources.

Prior to 2019, the HIC was reported from a variety of different sources. This is the first year where HIC data was reported fully from the HMIS database, offering the most comprehensive and up-to-date record of resources for homeless persons available and a foundation upon which to build even more accurate information in the future.

As communities look to their available shelter beds and the number of people experiencing homelessness in their community, it's imperative that these numbers are considered in more depth.

IN METRO DENVER, THE MAIN PROJECT TYPES REPORTED ON THE HIC THAT CORRESPOND TO LIVING SITUATIONS FOR THE NIGHT OF THE POINT IN TIME ARE:

EMERGENCY SHELTER

3,268 BEDS 3,096 FILLED

Of available beds, 2712 are available year-round, and 556 were only for overflow/ severe weather. Overall, they were **94.7% full** on Jan 28, 2019.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

2,358 BEDS 1,678 FILLED

Transitional housing programs were, on average across the CoC, **71.2% full** on Jan 28, 2019.

SAFE HAVEN

63 BEDS 35 FILLED

HUD changed the definition of Low Demand Grant per Diem programs with the 2019 PIT guidance and designated a **2nd safe haven** program in Denver.[12]

If shelter does not meet someone's needs, or worse, they find it to be more traumatizing than living unsheltered then they will not utilize the resource.

In Denver county, where 68.5% of those experiencing literal homelessness reside, the community is undergoing a shelter system redesign to better meet the needs of those it seeks to serve.

A few notable variables under consideration are: adult couples wishing to stay together, pets, active substance use disorders, trauma informed design of sleeping and open spaces, physical disabilities, and an aging population with special needs.

Many other regional shelters have been moving toward lowering barriers and adjusting service provision to be more housing focused. This will allow more people to access shelter when needed and move into permanent housing more quickly.

More information on low-barrier, housing focused shelter models is available from the National Alliance to End Homelessness in a full series on best practices available free to the public.[13]

As MDHI seeks to enhance accuracy of shelter and transitional housing utilization to better understand gaps and resources, community partners are encouraged to use HMIS to report this information with less effort on their part to survey overnight guests.

A more detailed report of the Housing Inventory Count, which includes sheltered location utilization and those persons currently being served in permanent housing programs, will be made available in the summer of 2019 on www.mdhi.org.

12 October 2018, Notice CPD-18-08: 2019 HIC and PIT Data Collection for CoC and ESG Programs
13 https://endhomelessness.org/resource/emergency-shelter/

ADDITIONS TO THE 2019 SURVEY

Each year MDHI and the Point in Time committee evaluate any suggestions for new survey language and questions, including any additional HUD requirements which are released annually in the months preceding the PIT count. In the 2019 survey, there were no required HUD changes. However, there were decisions to reintroduce a question regarding people's last permanent residence, include an additional demographic category, continue administering the Youth Supplemental Survey, and add a short Veteran Supplemental Survey.

MIGRATION INFORMATION

"Where was your last permanent residence before you became homeless?"

It included hint language of "a place you lived for more than 3 months or were on a lease." The data from those who answered this question showed approximately 73% of people reported being from the metro area or another area of Colorado.

This was included to help provide additional context to the picture of homelessness in our region. It will be reconsidered for clarity in the 2020 survey.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

"Do you identify as LGBQ+?"

Yes or No.

At the request and suggestion of the Denver Mayor's LGBTQ commission[14], the category of sexual orientation was included in the 2019 survey after discussion of benefits, concerns, and phrasing. The question was placed in the demographics section.

There has been considerable research on youth homelessness and LGBTQ status and identity with the often-quoted statistic that 40% of youth experiencing homelessness identify as LGBTQ.[15]

Conversely, there is very little information available on sexual orientation in adults and whether and how it's contributed to their experience of homelessness and if available services are adequately meeting their needs.

The data acquired in this year's PIT survey is not a full picture, partially due to the question being absent in agency and HMIS databases, though it is a start to better understanding and better supporting a population that has had to fight for their basic human rights.

This question helped provide some initial data that can be used to support the need for inclusivity trainings and attention to policy both written and in practice across the homeless services system.

Transgender has been a required option in the PIT since 2014. It describes a gender identity and as such is included in the gender demographic options.

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14 https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/human-rights-and-community-partnerships/our-commissions/lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender-queer-commission.html

15 Durso, L.E., & Gates, G.J. (2012). Serving Our Youth: Findings from a National Survey of Service Providers Working with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Youth who are Homeless or At Risk of Becoming Homeless. Los Angeles: The Williams Institute with True Colors Fund and The Palette Fund

VETERAN SUPPLEMENTAL SURVEY

In the 2019 PIT, MDHI added a short questionnaire, the Veteran Supplemental Survey (VSS), to the PIT survey for veterans living unsheltered or unconnected to services.

MDHI developed this addition with the support of the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) representative on the PIT committee.

Individuals who self-identified as being a veteran of the armed services were offered the opportunity to give their full name and best method and location to be contacted if they were interested in engagement from veteran specific outreach staff for housing or other service determination.

This additional information was very useful to VA staff in identifying individuals who previously were unknown to them and not receiving housing and healthcare services for which they are eligible.

A total of 96 veterans completed the VSS. The VA was already connected to 26 (25%) of those veterans. The VA worked to outreach the remaining self-identified veterans.

The VA was encouraged by the results and will continue working as a member of the MDHI PIT committee to improve real-time connection of identified veterans to housing and other services.

The VA homelessness services team has recently gained approval for HMIS use, which will support faster identification and eligibility approval. They also plan to have more staff available for initial outreach to decrease the likelihood of people not being located after completing the VSS.

The VA was able to connect an additional 9 veterans in the next 6 months to housing as a direct result of the VSS.

YOUTH SUPPLEMENTAL SURVEY

MDHI has included a Youth Supplemental Survey at the request of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Housing, Office of Homeless Youth Services (OHYS).

The survey is part of the PIT count in all three Colorado CoCs and provides information that is compiled by OHYS to show the scope of youth homelessness across the state and track progress against the USICH benchmarks to end youth homelessness.

It was first implemented during the 2017 PIT,

has been refined annually by stakeholder groups, including MDHI's Youth Action Board, and is expected to be administered through the 2020 PIT count. The state report is available on the OHYS website.[16]

See the Appendix for a copy of each of these Supplemental Surveys.

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16 https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dola/office-homeless-youth-services-ohys

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT &
PARTICIPATION

4

HOW WE EXPANDED OUR REACH

The CoC's goal for the Point in Time is to constantly evaluate and improve efforts to be as accurate, comprehensive, and useful to the community as possible while meeting all necessary HUD requirements.

Great strides were made in 2018 towards increased engagement of agencies and sites conducting the PIT count, resulting in an increase of 33 agencies and 34 sites.

In 2019, the focus was on continued improvements in data, expansion of the mobile survey, expanded outreach efforts and coordination, and a pilot of connecting people to housing resources with the Veteran Supplemental Survey.

As we look toward the future, MDHI is prioritizing effective unsheltered outreach coverage and engagement, use of HMIS and other agency databases for all sheltered data, and moving the expansive PIT efforts from being primarily a homeless count to also be a method for connecting people to services in real time and accurately knowing who needs housing in our communities.

The MDHI AmeriCorps VISTA team spearheaded efforts to solicit enough donations to ensure that everyone who was surveyed received some sort of incentive or thank you for their participation. Many communities and local governments also participated in this effort. Donations included a variety of in-kind goods and financial donations to buy items not normally donated, such as bus tickets. In total, MDHI received over 8,000 pairs of brand-new socks to distribute across the region for agencies, events, and outreach efforts.

PIT LAUNCH AND LOCAL COMMITTEES

As mentioned previously, successfully engaging stakeholders and partnerships across a seven-county region with 40 jurisdictions and a 4500 square mile geography including mountains, plains, urban, suburban, and rural communities is a challenge.

MDHI designated a regional PIT coordinator to increase coordination, engagement, and lead ongoing improvements.

A regional PIT committee began meeting monthly in September 2018 with representation from each of the eight main areas (all counties and the City of Aurora) and specific populations

such as veterans and youth.

In October, a community-wide "PIT Launch" was held to encourage and promote community engagement and formation of local PIT committees to lead their community planning and execution.

Each community held planning meetings prior to the PIT. Adams County, the City of Aurora, Denver County, and Jefferson County each convened more robust local PIT committees to help plan all aspects of the Point in Time in their community with support from the MDHI PIT coordinator and area lead.

MOBILE SURVEY

The use of an electronic survey has been expanded over the last three years. A mobile option increases the data quality of the surveys received.

Surveyors are prompted to answer all questions, interpreting handwriting is not an issue, data is received in a uniform format that is easier to de-duplicate and analyze, and locations are easier to determine along county and city lines to assist local needs assessments.

The use of the mobile survey was piloted by the City of Aurora in 2017. All surveyors in that city utilized this version wherever possible.

In 2018, with the invaluable support of the City of Aurora's GIS (Geographic Information Systems) department in development and real-time data monitoring, it was offered across the region. It was not required, but suggested in 2018, and was utilized almost exclusively in Aurora, Denver, and Adams county.

Feedback from the 2018 mobile survey lead to improved functionality in 2019, more clear

wording and prompts for volunteers, more options for noting locations including fill-in or a GIS "pin drop", and beta testing prior to the final survey and trainings.

In 2019, use of the mobile survey was recommended, though not required due to the need for electronics and internet service.

Mobile survey use increased exponentially from 2018 to 2019. Of the initial surveys submitted on paper and mobile platforms in 2018, there were approximately 76% on paper and 24% completed on the mobile platform. In 2019, this increased to 72% completed on the mobile platform and 28% on paper forms.

In 2019, 72% of surveys were done on mobile devices vs. 24% in 2018.

LAW ENFORCEMENT ENGAGEMENT

Engagement from law enforcement varies across the region. Generally, officers provide coordinators with information on current unsheltered camping locations.

In Denver County, the level of info shared by multiple Police Department districts was considerably more than in year's past and enabled targeted outreach in some neighborhoods that otherwise may not have been canvassed.

In some communities, namely Adams and Jefferson Counties, law enforcement is part of the regular Point in Time committees. Also in those communities, the City of Arvada set up a phone for police and parks and recreation to call to complete surveys.

Officers and staff stood with people identified or known to be experiencing homelessness, offered available incentives, and called into the phone line to have a trained volunteer ask the questions. This allowed for more coverage during the count.

Officers also handed out flyers in the week preceding the PIT to inform people of nearby magnet events, as opportunities for resources, goods, and a positive interaction between those experiencing homelessness and officers was reportedly often a positive experience on both sides.

"We're doing a magnet event, so we can do the survey... and while they're here, and probably most importantly, is to create an environment of community and let them know there are people who care."

- Jen Dougherty, Patrol Agent

Lakewood Police Department

UNSHELTERED OUTREACH COORDINATION

A major focus of the 2019 PIT committee was to expand, document, and evaluate unsheltered outreach efforts across the region.

Previous outreach efforts were managed by area coordinators and the details were not shared with MDHI. Changes from year to year in regional outreach coverage were not well documented or communicated.

This year, coordinators were asked to prepare outreach plans to identify where outreach coverage was expected to occur and provide updated plans after completion.

Coordinators were asked to track outreach teams, track current and historical unsheltered living activity, and utilize maps to share visual information.

This data will be compiled and reviewed to provide insight into possible improvements.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

The PIT count would not be possible without hundreds of volunteers and participating agency staff making themselves available to support this effort.

MDHI recruited approximately 250 volunteers to participate at various sites, shelters, magnet events, and on outreach. Other communities recruited over 300 additional local volunteers. Agency staff also surveyed at their own programs across the region.

MDHI provided trainings to all volunteers and staff on the survey tools, suggestions for engaging participants, and the purpose of the Point in Time.

In-person trainings for volunteers and staff were held around the region, totaling 12 held over the two weeks preceding the count. Training was mandatory for volunteers and provided opportunities for both role playing to practice surveying and being surveyed using the online survey. The full training was recorded for those that could not attend in person, and a shortened mobile survey demonstration was available online for returning staff.

Agencies and staff that provide services to those fleeing domestic and interpersonal violence were given additional survey options, which allowed for increased safety and confidentiality for survivors.

"On such a cold night, I definitely gained a lot of perspective on the conditions that many of these individuals are living in on a daily basis."

- Anna F., Volunteer

"It made homelessness real and not just a number or an anonymous face behind a cardboard sign."

- Jennifer B., Volunteer

MAGNET EVENTS

Magnet events were an engagement strategy introduced in the 2018 PIT across the region. These events were seen as valuable and useful in both surveying more people living unsheltered in hard to find populations, such as youth, in locations where there aren't many, or, in some cases, any places where people experiencing homelessness regularly utilize or spend time.

In the 2019 PIT, the definition of a magnet event was tightened so only those events that are specifically designed to engage people living unsheltered in the community were labeled as a magnet event. Other events were still considered survey sites if they were asking attendees about their housing status/needs, regardless of the focus.

Magnet event coordinators conducted specific outreach in the area of the event by producing flyers and delivering them with intentional invitations so people knew they were wanted, welcomed, and could bring others. Some locations used space at nearby bus shelters for advertising the event.

Specific draws included services such as: showers, hot meals, laundry services, haircuts, healthcare services like Hepatitis A and flu vaccines, and mainstream benefits and resource information. Other incentives included need and comfort items, such as cold weather clothes, camping gear, handwarmers, bus tickets, snacks, hygiene kits, and socks. Incentives were given to those in attendance regardless of survey participation but set up in a manner to encourage it. An event was developed specifically for families who were staying in vehicles in Aurora. While it was not successful in terms of attendance, the effort did provide information about what may or may not be useful in planning events of this nature.

Specific youth and veteran events were held in Denver. The youth event was held at the Urban

Peak Denver drop-in center in addition to their regular morning hours. They held the event all day on Tuesday from breakfast to dinner. so youth could come at a time that fit their schedule. They held activities like hair dying and haircuts, made meals together, and handed out incentives specifically requested by the youth. The number of surveys done there increased to 50 youth in 2019, and these adjustments may have been the reason for the increase. The veteran's all-day event was held at the Volunteers of America Veteran Services Center and welcomed everyone in the neighborhood regardless of veteran status. Overall magnet events provided services and resources to all who attended.

Overall magnet events surveyed an increased number of people in 2019. Approximately 500 people were surveyed across the region through their efforts and provided services and resources to all who attended, which is around 11% of the total of mobile and paper surveys completed. This was an increase of nearly 200 over 2018 magnet event survey numbers.

INVOLVEMENT OF CURRENT & LIVED EXPERIENCE

Communities need to continually look at how people are being included in the discussion and the development of issues and projects that directly affect them. There is great benefit to involving people with current and lived experience in project design and implementation as they possess unique perspective and expertise. Specifically, their knowledge of unsheltered locations and visual cues to identify new ones, familiarity with how and where people move about in the community, increased credibility and transparency of the PIT count efforts, and inclusivity.

There were several ways the CoC partnered with people experiencing homelessness for the 2019 PIT.

All individuals with lived experience who participated in or advised the MDHI PIT count were compensated with gift cards for their time.

MDHI supports a Youth Action Board (YAB), an official committee of the CoC, that is comprised of young adults who have experienced homelessness and systems involvement. Youth are a population that can be especially challenging to identify in a one-day count. YAB members reviewed and gave feedback on both the MDHI PIT survey and the Youth Supplemental Survey. They also identified locations around the region where youth congregate and new agencies to

be included as count sites. YAB members also supported outreach efforts directly and surveyed youth who may be more likely to engage with their peers.

The City of Aurora (COA) coordinator assigned vans to cover a specific section of the city. Vans went out to cover each tract beginning at 8pm. Individuals who are currently or have very recently been living unsheltered acted as a guide for each team doing PIT outreach that Monday evening.

COA provided stipends for all these guides. In several other communities, MDHI offered gift cards to encourage similar support during the PIT though only a handful were requested.

The CoC is working towards engaging community members more deeply in the Point in Time, beginning with the planning stages. We will explore innovative ways to better count people living in cars, other vehicles, and unsheltered locations in general. Word of mouth from the community greatly increases the likelihood of counting difficult to find populations. The increased transparency and inclusion will hopefully lead to more awareness and engagement and thus increased accuracy and usefulness of the PIT efforts to connect those living unsheltered to resources and community efforts to end homelessness.

Metro Denver Homeless Initiative

POINT IN TIME GOALS
2020 AND BEYOND

5

MDHI seeks to constantly improve the Point in Time process and efforts. Opportunities for feedback are given to all volunteers and participants across the region. The MDHI PIT coordinator convened a committee debrief, attended local debriefs held around the region, and solicited volunteer and staff feedback. This process is crucial to learning what worked well, where improvement is needed, and to identify ideas to begin implementing for the coming year.

One promising endeavor is connecting people in real time to needed housing and other services. As described earlier in this report, the 2019 PIT efforts piloted connecting veterans to outreach workers to assess veteran status and eligibility for services and housing options. In 2020 this pilot will be expanded and improved to reach self-identified veterans more quickly and provide connection information on the spot. As the regional homeless crisis response system becomes more developed and coordinated, the hope is that all populations can be directly connected with housing resources along the continuum from shelter to permanent housing and services.

This will be possible through the build out of a regional unsheltered outreach structure which fully covers the CoC geography, as well as regional access points and navigation centers to assist with those experiencing a housing crisis. Currently, some areas – especially suburban and rural areas – are not adequately covered due to lack of capacity and services in those areas.

For geographic areas where outreach did not occur, there is opportunity for discussion to identify if that was due to lack of capacity, lack of awareness, or lack of engagement in an area, or if unsheltered homelessness was not present in certain areas. MDHI is mapping the 2019 outreach plans from around the region to evaluate current efforts as we work to expand them to better cover the entire CoC.

Another area of focus for 2020 is the effort to utilize data from HMIS or databases connected to HMIS for our sheltered PIT count (i.e., people staying in emergency shelter, safe haven, and transitional housing). In 2019, 14% of Emergency Shelter 100% of Safe Haven and 28% of Transitional Housing survey information came directly from HMIS or agency databases.

Using HMIS data for our sheltered PIT count provides several benefits to administering a survey. It is a considerable challenge to survey in large shelter locations, some of whom serve from 400-700 people nightly. Pulling data from HMIS ensures complete coverage and better data quality. It will save on resources (e.g. staff and volunteer time) and is a more trauma-informed way of gathering this data than administering a survey. In 2020, the goal is to receive survey data directly from HMIS on 70% of those in emergency shelter, 50% of transitional housing, and 100% of data from those in safe havens.

> The 2020 metro Denver Point in Time count is scheduled to take place on the last Monday in January, Jan 27, 2020.

BUILT FOR ZERO - ENDING VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

The US Department of Veteran's Affairs Eastern Colorado Healthcare System and MDHI have worked together on efforts to reduce the number of veterans experiencing homelessness through participation in Built for Zero (BFZ). BFZ is a rigorous national change effort working to help a core group of committed communities end veteran and chronic homelessness.

Coordinated by Community Solutions, the national effort supports participants in developing real time data on homelessness, optimizing local housing resources, tracking progress against monthly goals, and accelerating the spread of proven strategies.

Under the leadership of our local VA and MDHI, Metro Denver began the process of developing a veteran By-Name List (BNL) for veterans in 2016.

A BNL is a method for providers to know people experiencing homelessness in their area by name and to therefore be more aware of their needs and better able to connect them to appropriate housing services.

This list is maintained in real time and gives the ability to track key data points over time to measure our progress in ending veteran homelessness in our region.

By-Name Lists can be verified and improved through the Point in Time outreach efforts. Anyone not known to providers can be outreached directly and supported in determining their path to housing and stability. This will be possible through the build-out of a fully functioning regional unsheltered outreach plan (administered year-round and covering the full CoC geography) and regional access points and navigation centers to assist with those experiencing a housing crisis.

The metro Denver Built for Zero team is committed to reducing veteran homelessness 50% by the end of 2019.

6 | DETAILED METRO DENVER 2019 PIT DATA

USING OUR RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

All subsequent information reflects outputs from cleaned datasets with reliable data for interpretation. See the Methodology section for more information of the process.

THE BASICS - HOUSEHOLD TYPES AND WHERE THEY SPENT THE NIGHT ON JAN 28TH, 2019

Types of Households represented in the PIT data includes **households without children**, which represents both single adults, couples, and adults in any combination that does not include children. **Households with at least one adult and one child** may also be referred to as "families" throughout the data presentations. The final, and smallest household type, is **households with only children**. This represents a situation where a minor child (under the age of 18) or children are the only people in the household and are not with a parent or guardian over the age of 18.

FIGURE 1.

NUMBER OF PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE ON JANUARY 28, 2019

The figure below gives a simple representation of how many people there were in each household type on the night of the PIT.
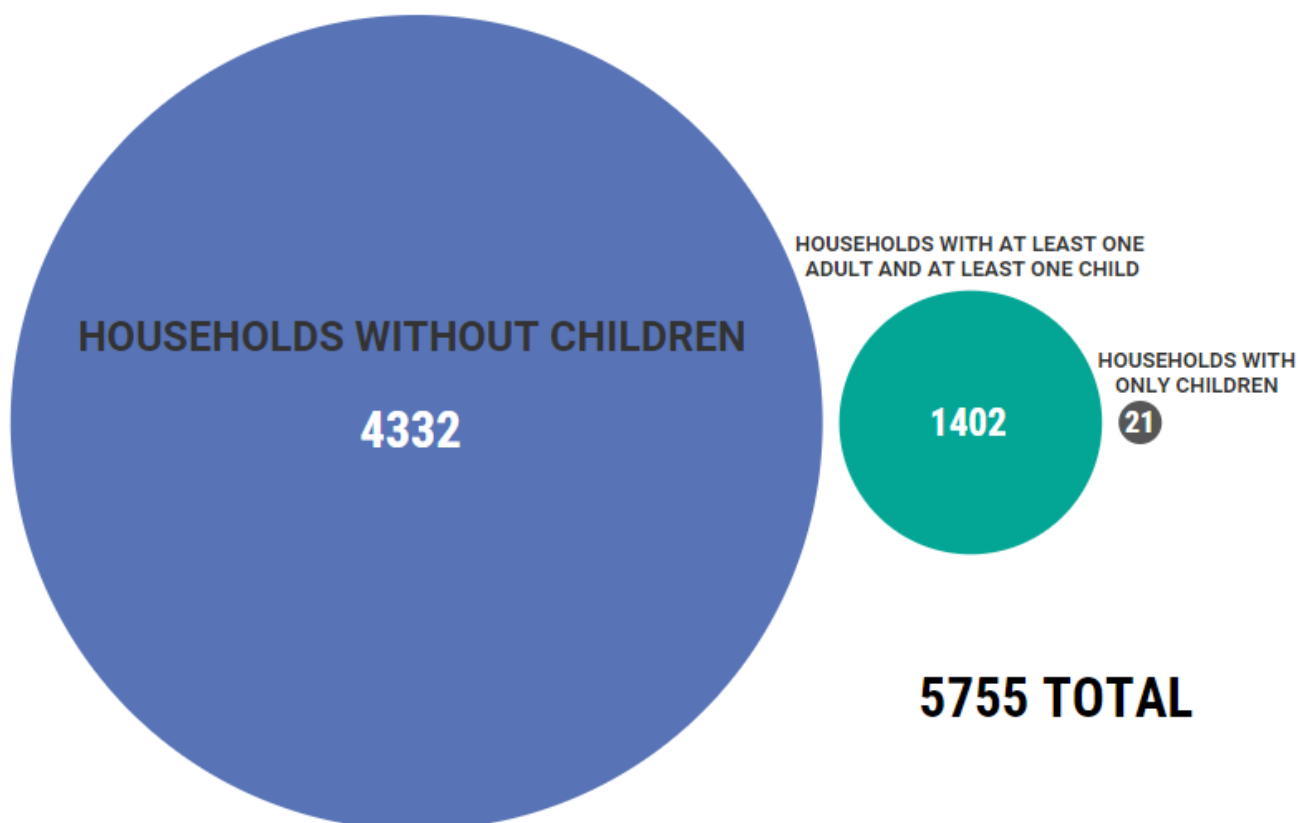

HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN
4332

HOUSEHOLDS WITH AT LEAST ONE ADULT AND AT LEAST ONE CHILD
1402

HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONLY CHILDREN
21

5755 TOTAL

FIGURE 2.

HOMELESS POPULATION HOUSEHOLD TYPE AND LIVING SITUATION

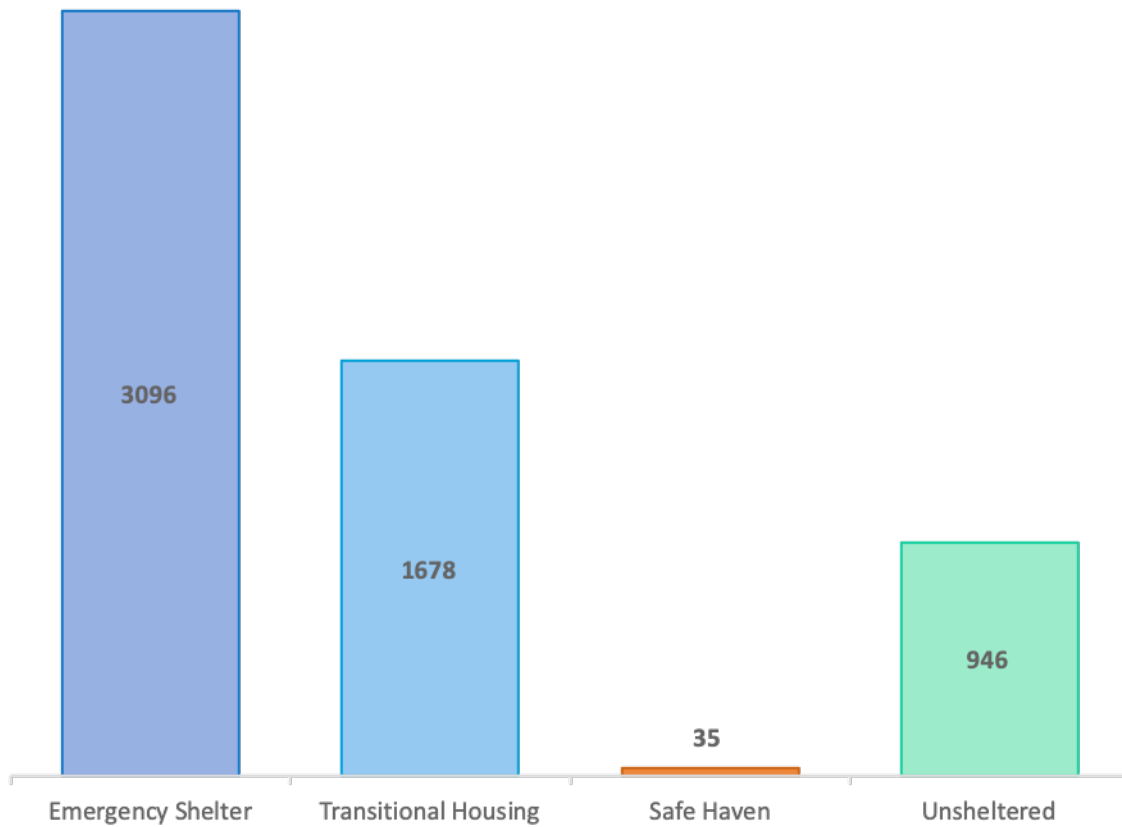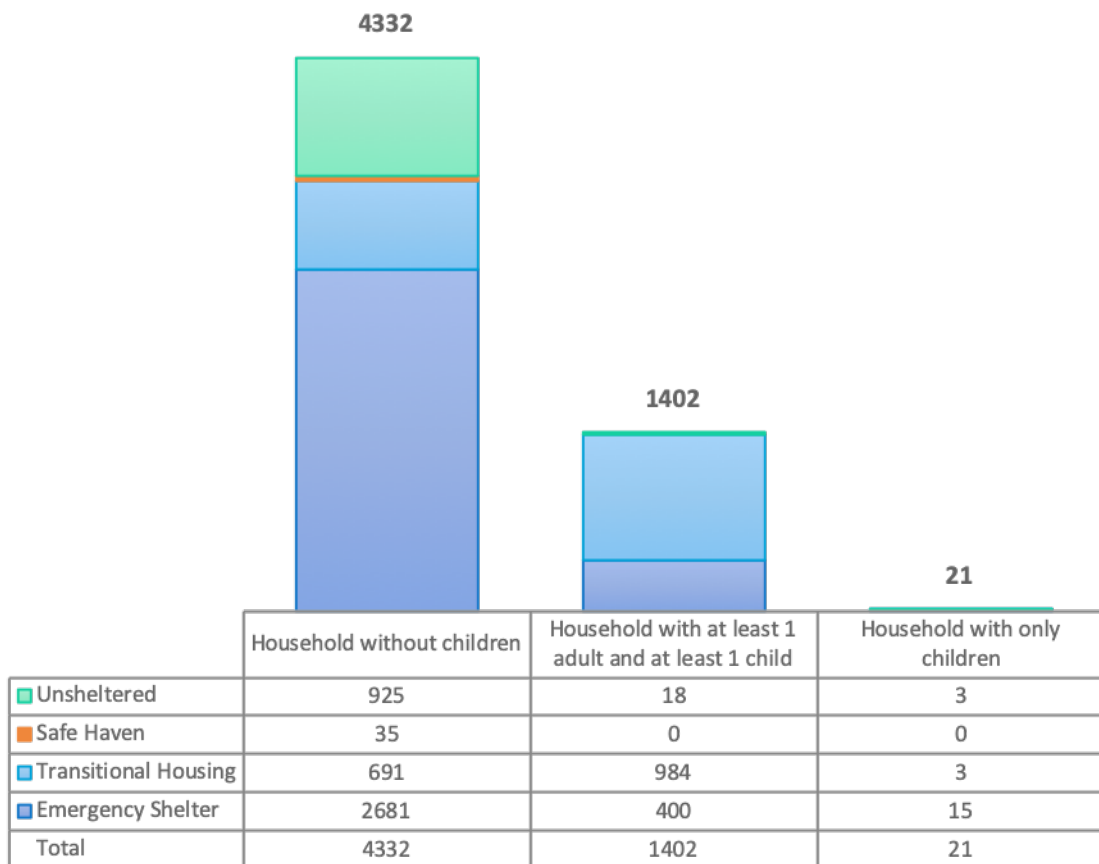Figure 2 below shows where people slept (living situation) on that evening.

3096	1678	35	946
Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Safe Haven	Unsheltered

FIGURE 3.

NUMBER OF PERSONS IN HOMELESS LIVING SITUATIONS ON JANUARY 28, 2019

Figure 3 combines these two data points for comparison.

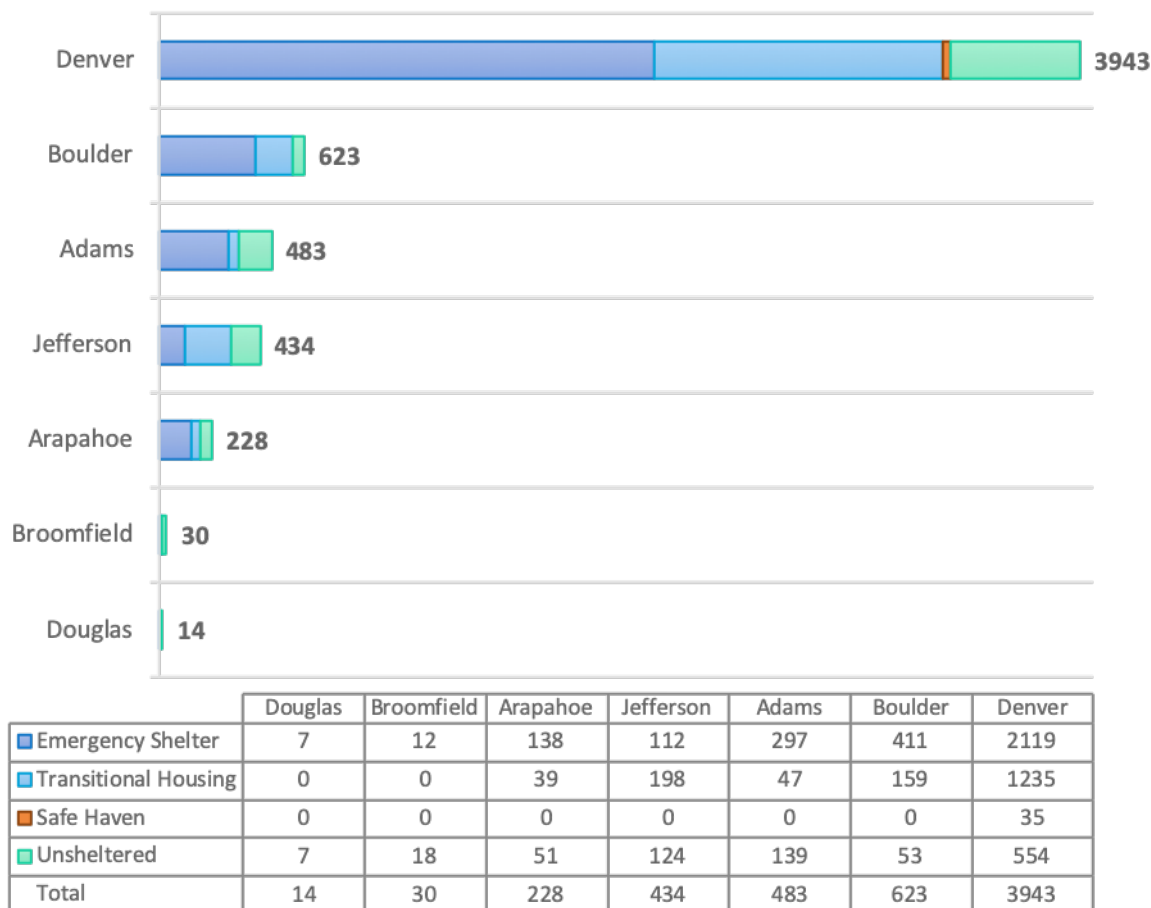|	Household without children	Household with at least 1 adult and at least 1 child	Household with only children
☐ Unsheltered	925	18	3
◼ Safe Haven	35	0	0
☐ Transitional Housing	691	984	3
☐ Emergency Shelter	2681	400	15
Total	4332	1402	21

A few notable inferences from figures 1-3: 54% (or 3096) of all people experiencing homelessness were in emergency shelter that night. Though of those, households without children (individuals) were a far majority of those in shelter – 87% (or 2681) of the total people in ES.

Households comprised of at least one adult and a child (considered "families" throughout this report) make up 59% (984) of those staying in time-limited transitional housing programs (1678 total in TH). This household type was also far less likely to be living unsheltered that night, as there were only 18 people in families stated they were unsheltered that evening.

THE REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

FIGURE 4.

HOMELESS POPULATION BY COUNTY AND LIVING SITUATION

	Douglas	Broomfield	Arapahoe	Jefferson	Adams	Boulder	Denver
■ Emergency Shelter	7	12	138	112	297	411	2119
■ Transitional Housing	0	0	39	198	47	159	1235
■ Safe Haven	0	0	0	0	0	0	35
■ Unsheltered	7	18	51	124	139	53	554
Total	14	30	228	434	483	623	3943

MDHI will be producing a public facing Housing Inventory Count Report for the CoC, which will detail exactly in which projects each person counted as sheltered was staying, including all projects and motel vouchers as reported to HUD. An important note regarding the county specific data is that people are counted in the county where they slept – not necessarily where the shelter office is located. This is most applicable to rotating church shelter models for families or severe weather sheltering which may change locations nightly or weekly.

The City and County of Denver had the largest proportion of people the night of the PIT with 68.5% (3943 people) of the total. All but one of the large volume shelters for both men and women are located in Denver. Douglas and Broomfield counties had far lower numbers with less than 1% of the total. The other four counties fall in the middle with Arapahoe at 4%, Adams at 8.4%, Boulder at 10.8%, and Jefferson with 7.5% of the total regional population experiencing homelessness in their community that night.
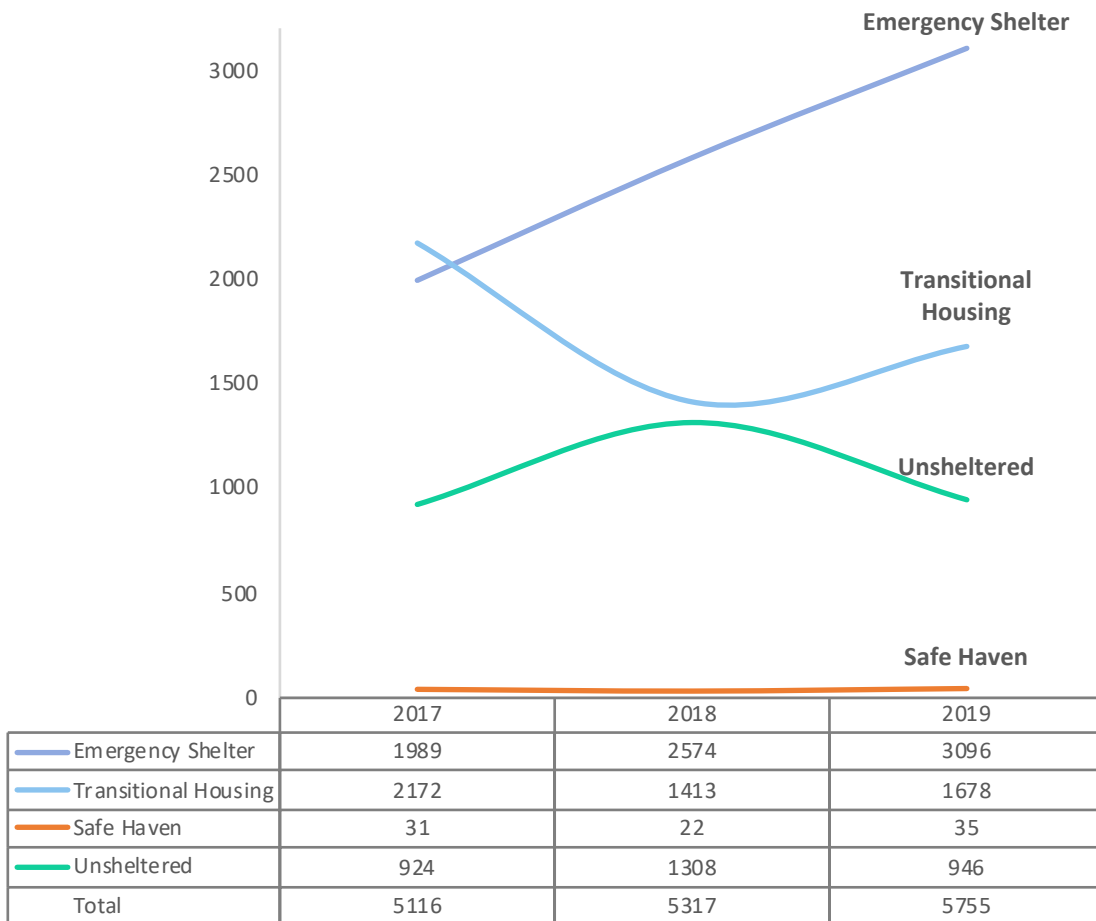
OVER THE LAST 3 YEARS

FIGURE 5.

CHANGE IN HOMELESSNESS BY LIVING SITUATION, 2017-2019

Figure 5 below shows the number of people in sheltered and unsheltered living situations over the last three years. Methodological and situational changes over time (as described in limitations and methodological sections) need to be considered as we look at year to year snapshots.

In 2019, one such situation was a major weather event where we would expect there to be more people staying in sheltered situations as opposed to unsheltered locations as the data shows below. An important reporting variation to consider is that the data from 2017 and previous years reported community information based on respondents only.

This is discussed in more detail in the methodology section on page 44.

	2017	2018	2019
Emergency Shelter	1989	2574	3096
Transitional Housing	2172	1413	1678
Safe Haven	31	22	35
Unsheltered	924	1308	946
Total	5116	5317	5755

SUB-POPULATIONS OF THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Figures 6 and 7 on the next page describe the often discussed and prioritized categories or population types who are experiencing homelessness in our community. There are other individuals who were experiencing homelessness on any given night, who are not categorized as "newly" or "chronically" homeless that do not fall under a specific referenced population. Additionally, some categories overlap. For example, veterans or the newly or chronically homeless categories may also include families.

All definitions are including in the Glossary in the Appendix section; however, a few are listed here for quick understanding of the visuals.

- **Families** are those households with at least one adult and at least one minor children. This is referenced in this report as the number of people in families as opposed to number of family households/units unless otherwise specified.
- **Veterans** are adults who self-report having previously served in the United States military.
- HUD defines a **Chronically Homeless** individual as an adult with a disabling condition who has been homeless (sheltered or unsheltered) for at least twelve consecutive months OR has had at least four episodes in the past three years with a total duration of at least one year. A chronically homeless family is composed of at least one adult (or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) and one child under 18 years old in which one adult meets the disability and chronicity definition.
- **Newly Homeless** is a person who has been homeless for less than one year and this is their first episode of homelessness.
- **Unaccompanied Youth** are persons under age 25 who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian and are not a parent presenting with or sleeping in the same plase as his/her child(ren).

As previously discussed, changes in methodology make year to year comparisons challenging. However, as each year passes, our data systems and tracking improve thanks to improvements being seen with the vendor transition of the HMIS system and greater utilization of HMIS in sheltered locations. Expanded community engagement and awareness, along with improved unsheltered outreach, also supports greater accuracy in the numbers.

The decrease in chronic and newly homeless households from 2018 to 2019 is notable.

More research and analysis will be done on these and corresponding data points over the next year. It is also notable that the Veteran numbers have relatively stabilized over the last few years. Our community's focus on ending veteran homelessness is mentioned in an earlier section regarding the Built for Zero (BFZ) work. The number of self- identified veterans is similar to the number of veterans housed annually through the VA and OneHome, the CoC's Coordinated Entry System. This raises a question regarding how many are new to the community, newly homeless, or newly identified – the "inflow". The focus through BFZ, and the work begun this year with the Veteran Supplemental Survey, will better inform the CoC regarding what is occurring in our system and point to solutions for ending veteran homelessness in metro Denver.
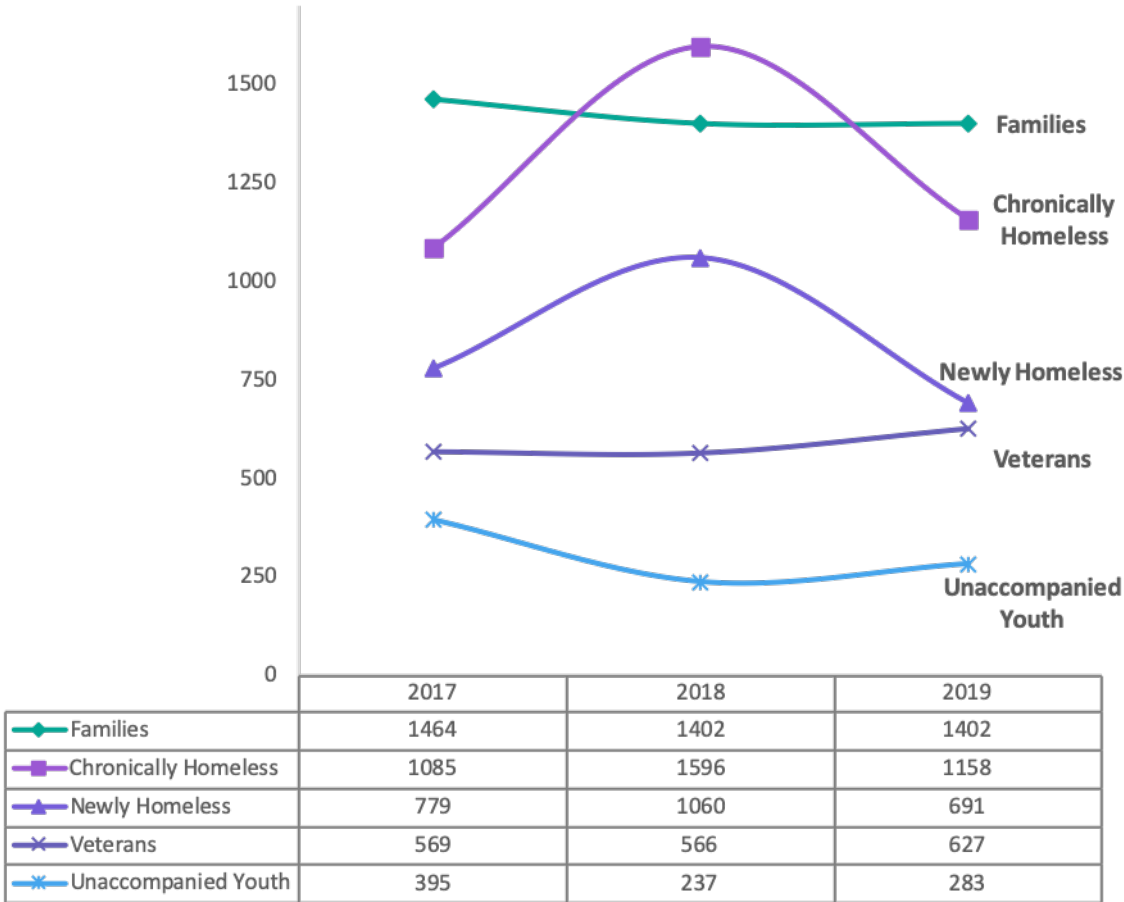
FIGURE 6.

NUMBER OF PERSONS BY HOMELESS POPULATION & LIVING SITUATION
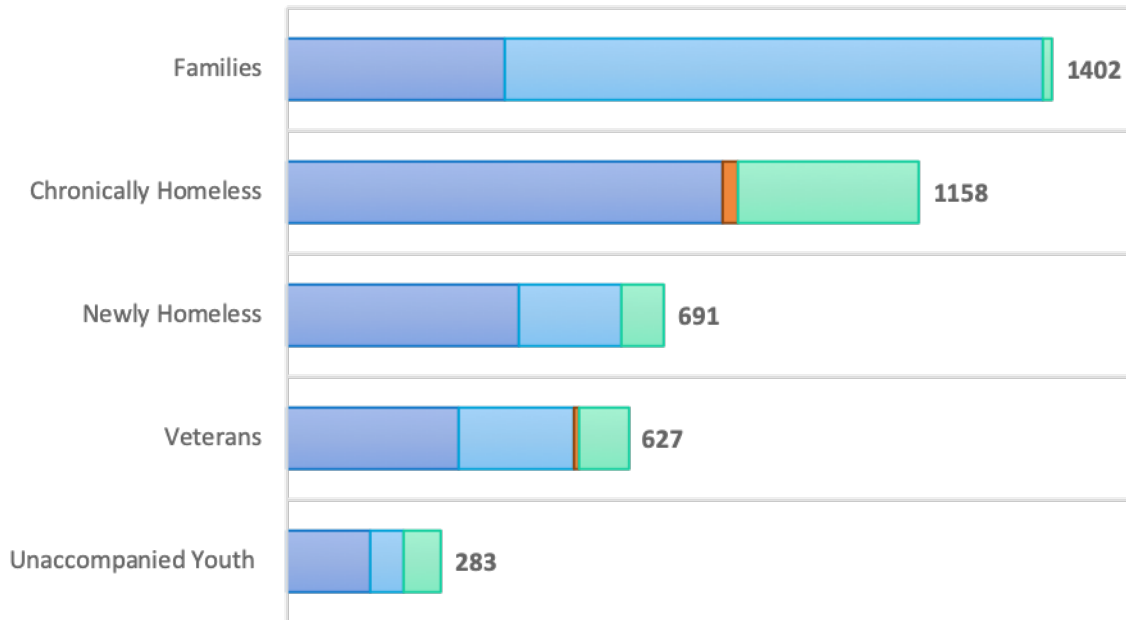
	Unaccompanied Youth	Veterans	Newly Homeless	Chronically Homeless	Families
■ Emergency Shelter	154	316	425	798	400
□ Transitional Housing	61	210	189	0	984
■ Safe Haven	0	9	0	28	0
■ Unsheltered	68	92	77	332	18
Total	283	627	691	1158	1402

FIGURE 7.

CHANGE IN HOMELESSNESS POPULATION TYPE, 2017-2019

|	2017	2018	2019
Families	1464	1402	1402
Chronically Homeless	1085	1596	1158
Newly Homeless	779	1060	691
Veterans	569	566	627
Unaccompanied Youth	395	237	283

PARENTING YOUTH

A youth who identifies as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household. Due to the small sample size, this category is presented in a separate figure.

HUD began asking CoCs to track this data beginning with the 2018 PIT. There were 47 youth under age 24 that were parenting minor children, in a total of 39 households. While there were none surveyed the night of the PIT, any parenting youth that are under the age of 18, with a minor child, but where no one is age 18 or older − would be considered a household of only children according to HUD PIT guidance.

FIGURE 8.
NUMBER OF PARENTING YOUTH BY PROJECT TYPE

38
Households

45
Parenting Youth
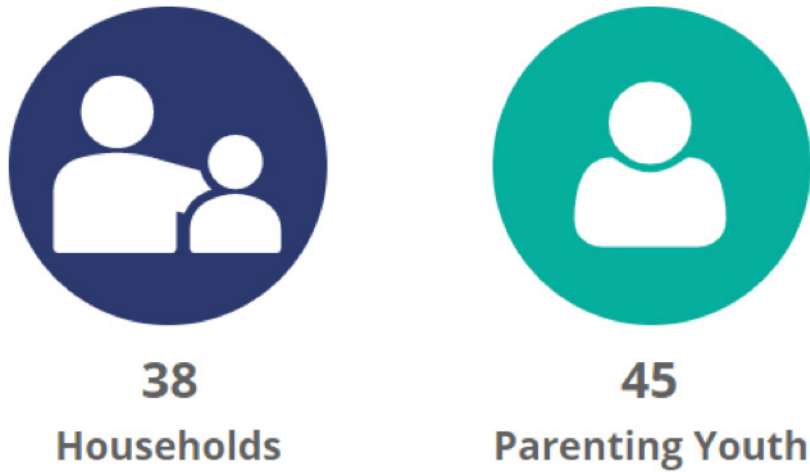
	Households	Parenting Youth
Emergency Shelter	7	12
Transitional Housing	31	33
Total	38	45

*There were no Parenting Youth in Safe Haven projects, or Unsheltered living situations

There were 45 people identified as parenting youth, with a total of 38 households. This sub-population is included in the data elsewhere under the family definition/Households with at least one adult and one child.

CHARACTERISTICS

Every year the count seeks to estimate the prevalence of certain characteristics and disabilities among those experiencing homelessness; they are summarized below. Figures 9 and 10 detail the overall percentages and numbers of people stating that these characteristics applied to them.

Each characteristic, except for "currently fleeing Domestic Violence", was only asked of adults in the household, for a total of 4,894 people. The denominator for those currently fleeing DV is of the entire population of 5755, as it was also calculated for the children in the households.
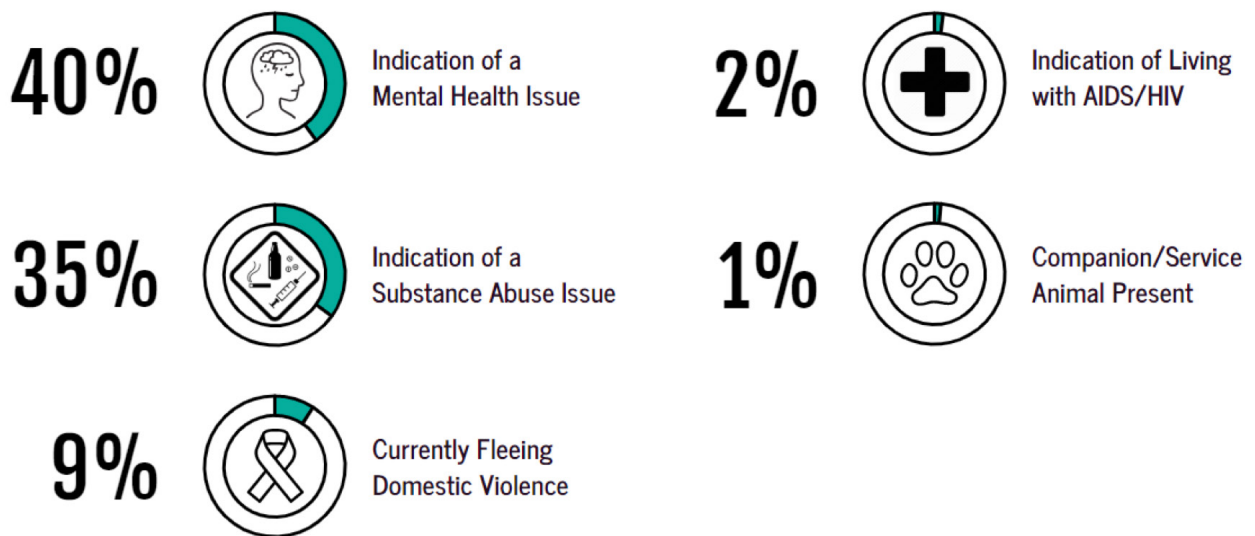
FIGURE 9.
TRACKED CHARACTERISTICS

40% Indication of a Mental Health Issue

35% Indication of a Substance Abuse Issue

9% Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence

2% Indication of Living with AIDS/HIV

1% Companion/Service Animal Present

FIGURE 10.
TABLES FOR TRACKED CHARACTERISTICS

|	Indication of a Mental Health Issue	Indication of a Substance Abuse Issue	Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence	Indication of Living with HIV/AIDS	Companion or Service Animal Present
Emergency Shelter	1156	911	395	66	8
Transitional Housing	336	355	87	5	1
Safe Haven	29	11	2	0	0
Unsheltered	426	429	58	24	29
Total	**1947**	**1706**	**542**	**95**	**38**

LAST PERMANENT RESIDENCE

This data point asked where people last had a permanent residence for more than 90 days. It does not give us information on where they are "from" or where they began experiencing this episode of homelessness.

Data pulled from HMIS does not contain information on last permanent residence since it is not an included intake question. Including extrapolated numbers, 62% of the surveys did not have an answer for the last permanent residence. Of those who did answer this question, approximately 73% were from Colorado.

FIGURE 11.
LOCATION OF LAST PERMANENT ADDRESS

|		
Outside Colorado	27%	972
Metro Denver	66%	2337
Other Colorado County	7%	238
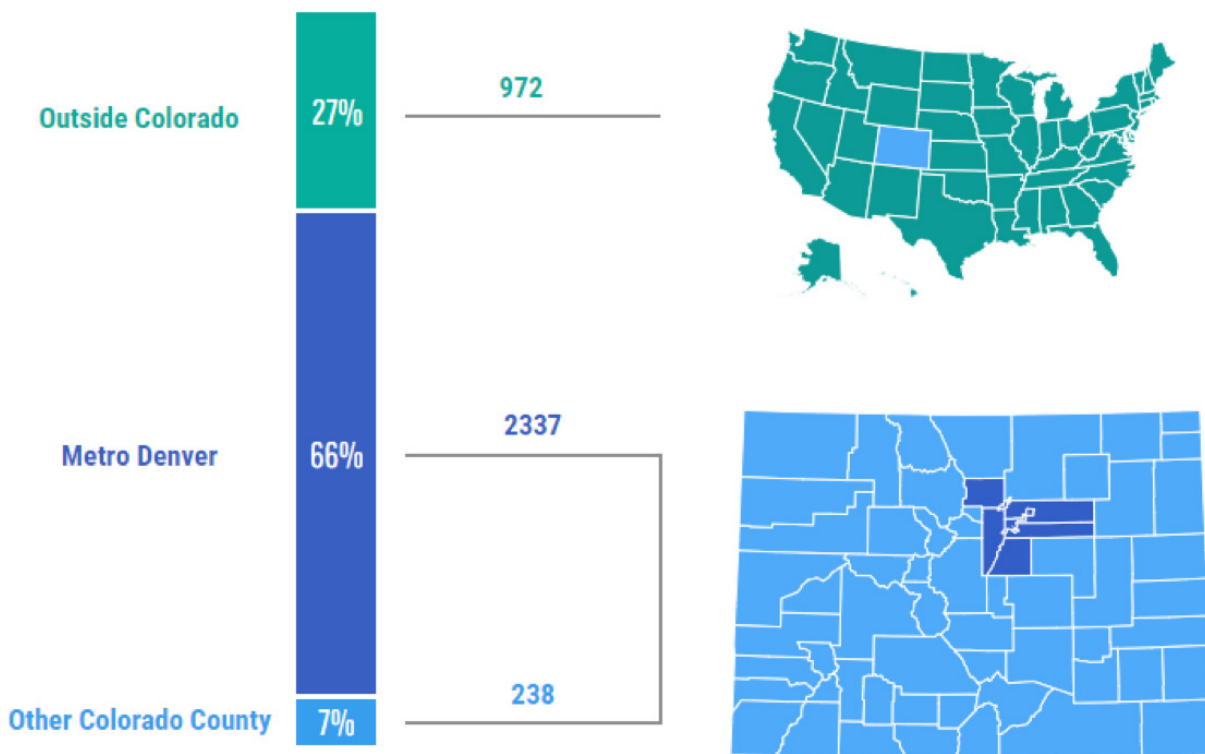
*Only 3547 of the 5755 provided a response on where they were last permanently housed

DEMOGRAPHICS

The following figures represent the demographic makeup of persons experiencing homelessness in the Denver metro area on the night of the 2019 PIT.

FIGURE 12.

AGE

| 15% | 6% | 56% | 18% | 5% |

Young Adult 18-24

Child 0-17

Adults 25-54

Adults 55-64
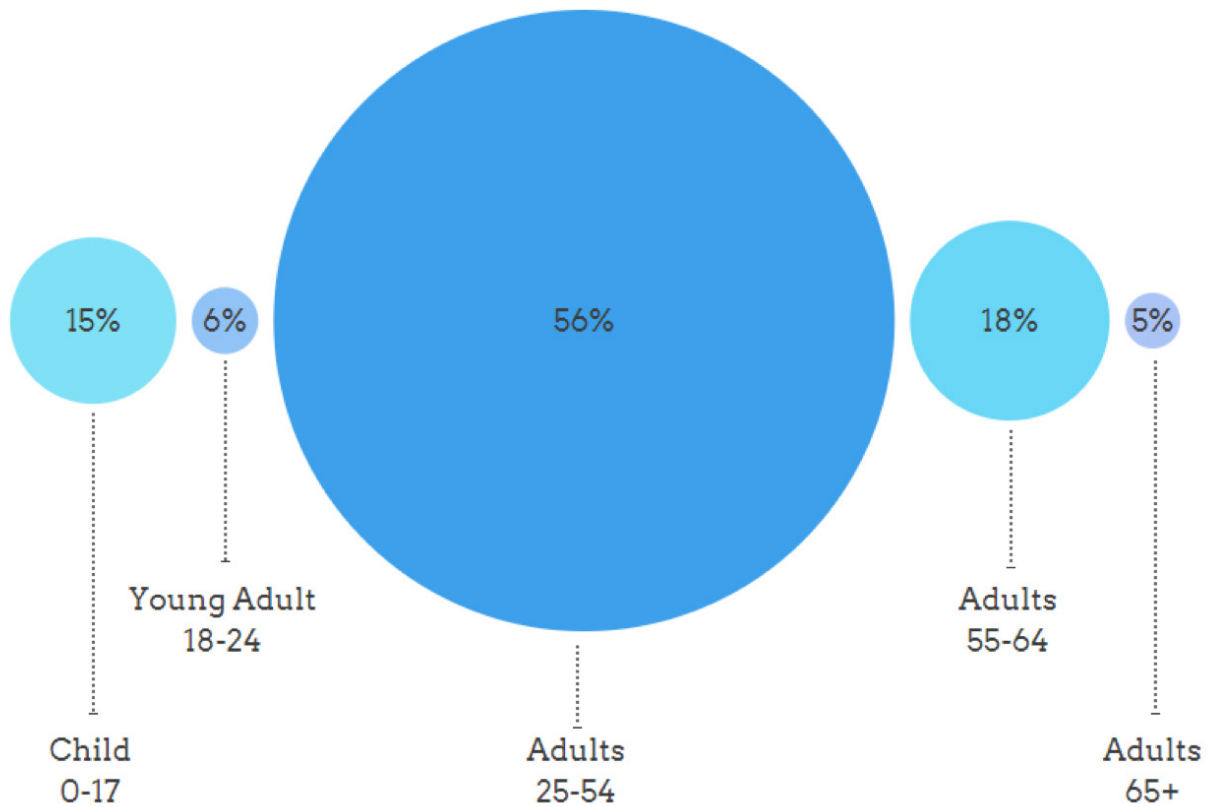
Adults 65+

Child 0 – 17	Young Adult 18 – 24	Adults 25 – 54	Adults 55 – 64	Adults 65+
845	364	3228	1037	265

* 16 surveys were missing Age information

Figure 12 shows the ages of people experiencing homelessness in metro Denver on January 28th, 2019. More than half are between the ages of 25-54. However, there were still more than 1,302 adults age 55 and older that are literally homeless in our community. Recently, more attention has been focusing on an increase of older adult homelessness nationwide.   Providers and community navigators also report seeing more older adults locally.

FIGURE 13.
GENDER
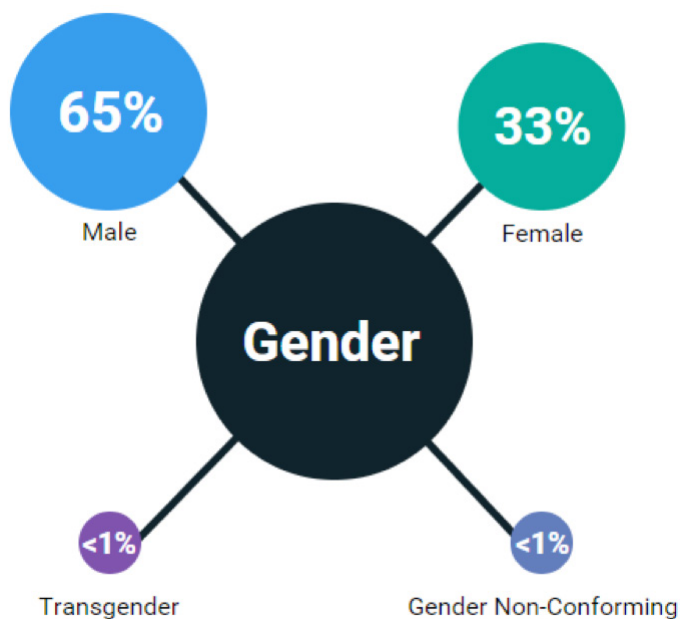
Gender	Count
Female	1914
Male	3727
Transgender	33
Gender Non-Conforming	30
Total	**5704***

*51 surveys were missing Gender information

The metro Denver PIT data has consistently shown a similar gender breakdown over the years, of approximately 2/3 male and 1/3 female.

HUD has adjusted the way gender is required to be asked during the PIT over the last five years. In 2014, transgender was added as an option. In 2015, the option to select transgender as male to female or female to male was added… and then removed in 2016 based on the feedback they received. In 2017, another option was added, "don't identify as male, female, or transgender." In 2018, this option was adjusted to offer, "Gender Non-Conforming." There were no changes in 2019.

FIGURE 14.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

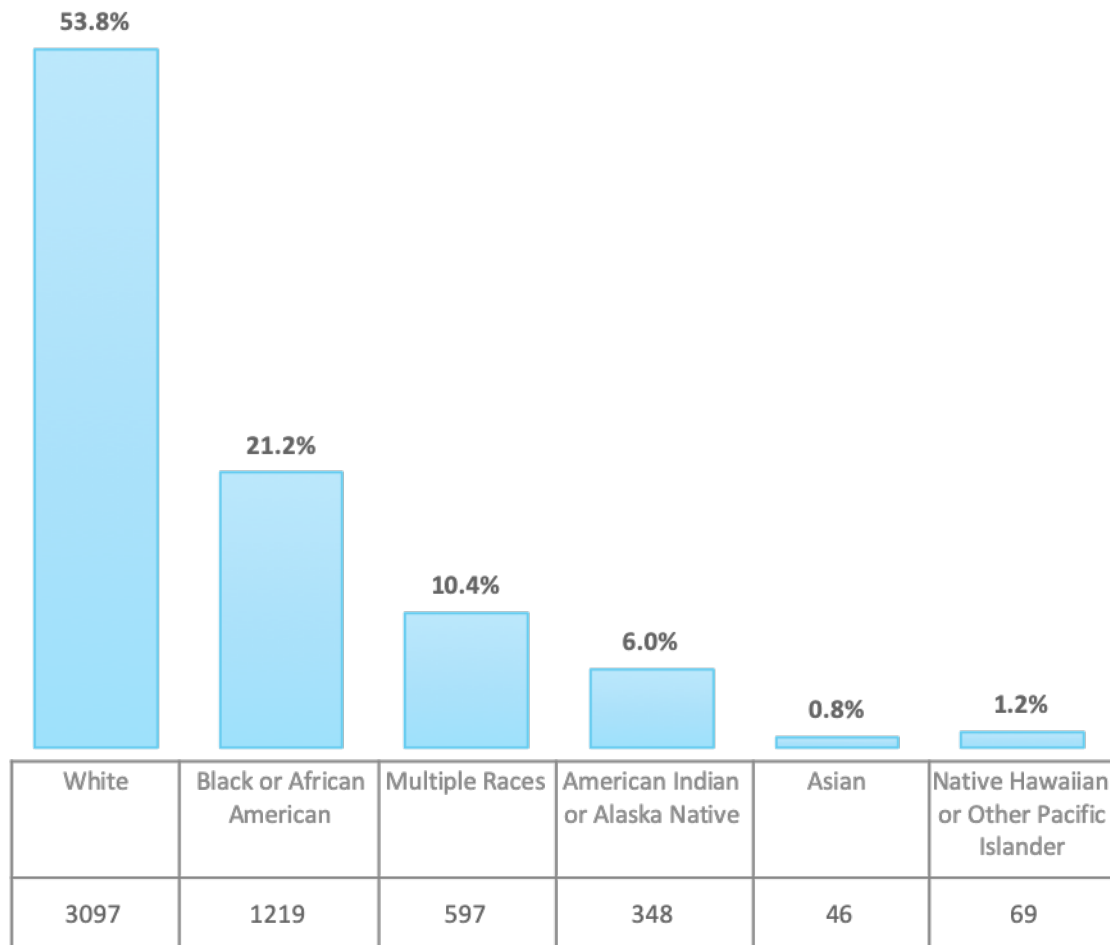|	Count
LGBQ+	353
Not LGBQ+	4036
Not Answered	360
Not Asked	1006
Total	**5755**

Figure 14 details the results of this new question explained earlier in the section on additions to the survey this year. There is a high percentage of not asked or not answered responses. Data collected from HMIS and another agency database does not contain the question that asked about sexual orientation which represents 17% of the total homeless population and is listed as "not asked" as participants were not given the option to answer. The "not answered" number means that it was simply not answered. This may be due to a refusal or a volunteer not asking the question.

During PIT trainings, volunteers asked questions regarding this new question. Some asked how best to ask it, and some thought it might be too personal. Volunteers were instructed to ask all questions in a neutral straightforward manner, using provided hints and definitions as needed. In feedback from committees and providers, there was only one location that reported people taking the survey asking why they were being asked about their orientation.
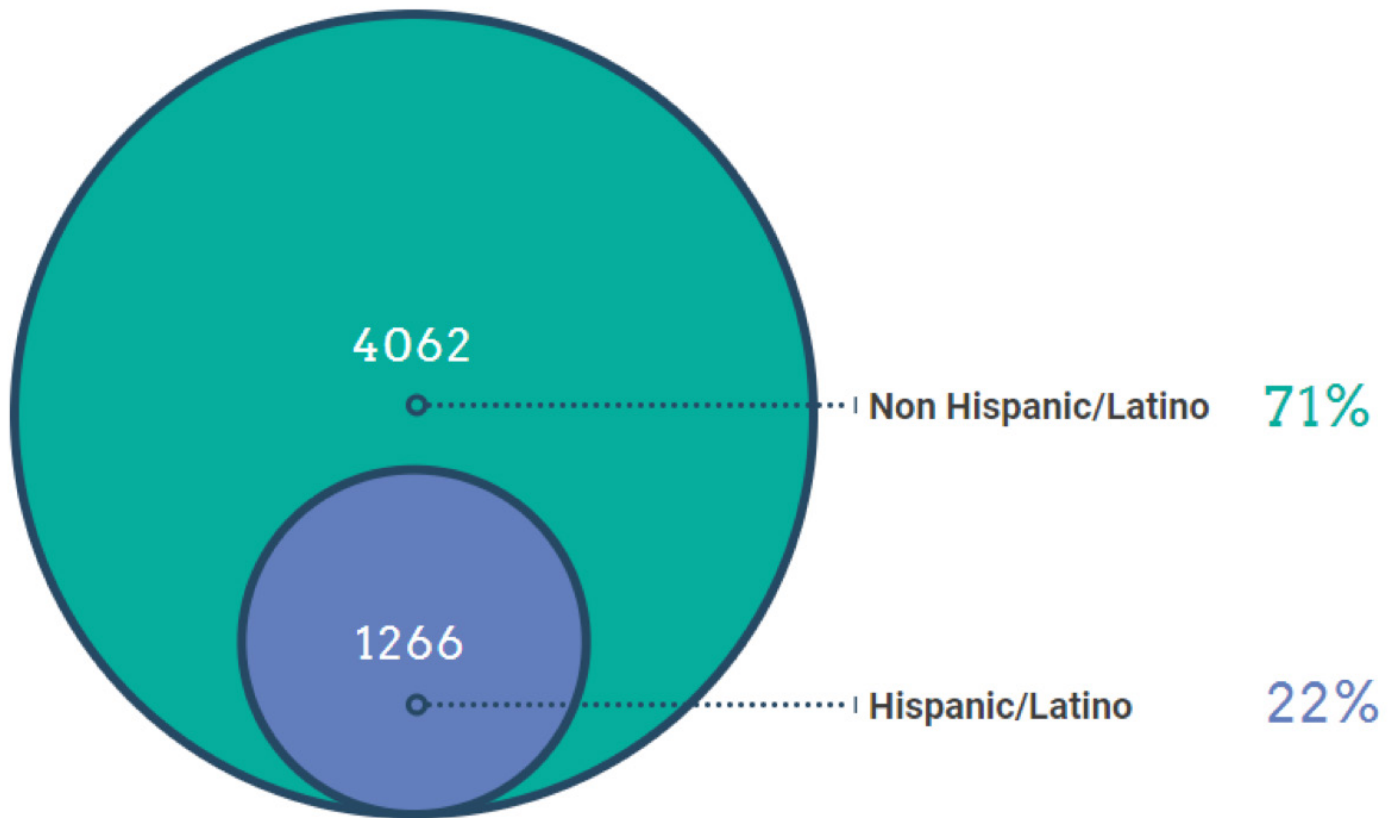
EQUITY AND THE HOMELESS CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM

The tables below show race and ethnicity breakdowns, first for the 2019 PIT alone. Then we highlight a comparison for the seven-county metro Denver region as reported by the Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation next to the 2019 Point in Time data.

FIGURE 15.
RACE

White	Black or African American	Multiple Races	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
3097	1219	597	348	46	69

* 379 surveys were missing Race information

FIGURE 16.
ETHNICITY

4062
Non Hispanic/Latino 71%

1266
Hispanic/Latino 22%

*427 surveys were missing ethnicity information

FIGURE 17.

REPRESENTATION IN HOMELESSNESS VS GENERAL PUBLIC

	Homelessness	General Public
WHITE	53.8%	65.2%
HISPANIC / LATINX	22.0%	22.4%
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN	21.2%	5.1%
MULTIPLE RACES	10.4%	2.3%
NATIVE AMERICAN OR ALASKA NATIVE	6.0%	0.5%
NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER	1.2%	0.1%
ASIAN	0.8%	3.8%
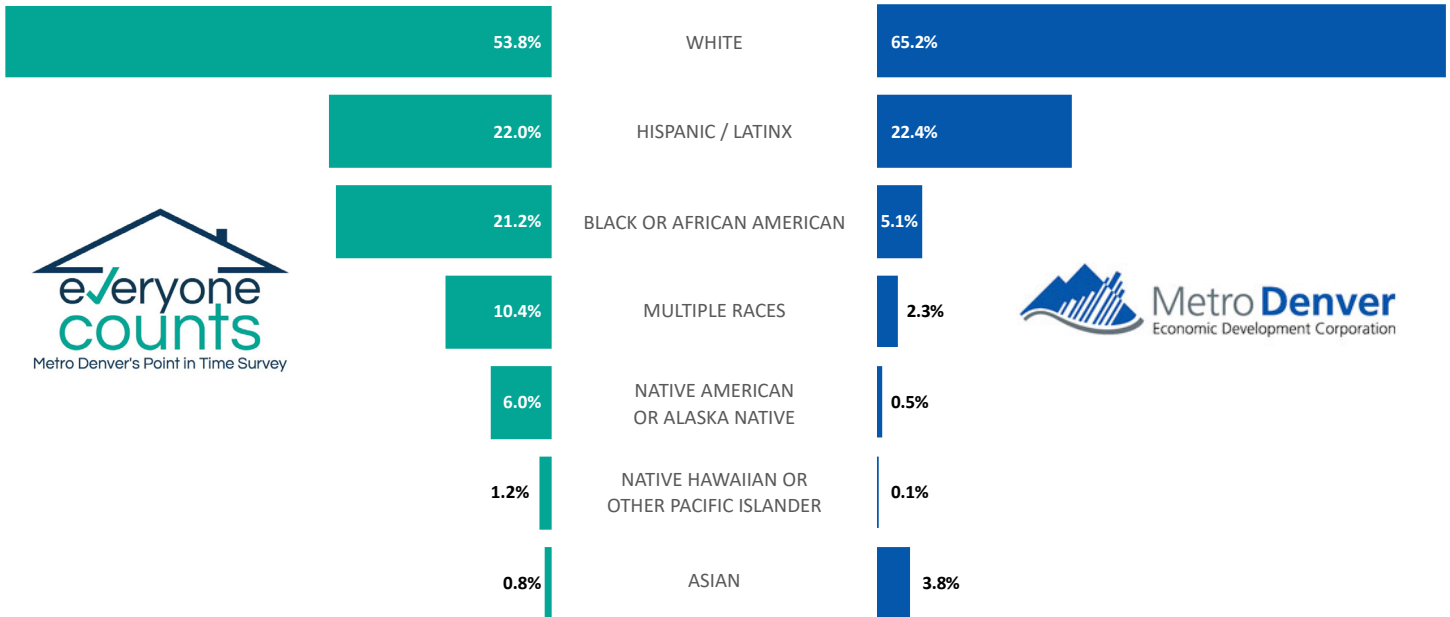
*379 PIT Surveys were missing information about Race
*427 PIT surveys were missing information about Ethnicity
*Persons of Hispanic/Latinx origin may be of any race(s)

Figure 17's comparison above for race/ethnicity shows several areas of notable concern and society-level inequity. The first and most prevalent is the over-representation of people who identify as Black or African-American experiencing homelessness (21.2%) compared to those in the general metro Denver population (5.1%). Native populations are also overrepresented, with just 0.5% of the regional population overall, but 6% of those experiencing homelessness. Those who identify as White and Asian are under-represented in homelessness compared to their prevalence in the general population. This is a similar trend seen nationwide.

The MDHI CoC has an active Equity and Accessibility working group which was recently formalized into an official committee of the CoC governance structure. Their goal is to enhance the quality of fair and impartial service and resource delivery of the Metro Denver Homeless Crisis Response System. This is done by evaluating available data, collaborating across the region, including perspectives outside of homeless services, and developing recommendations to be put forth to the wider community for consideration. The commitment to action is rooted in the goal to reverse the impacts of policies that perpetuate inequity in our society.

5 | METHODOLOGY

Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative oversees the Point in Time data collection efforts through the support of trained staff and volunteers throughout Metro Denver, and the methodology was approved by the MDHI Board of Directors as required by HUD. For the past five Point in Time counts, MDHI also worked with OMNI, a local research firm, to prepare and evaluate Point in Time surveys, and to validate and assist with statistical methodologies.

The majority of surveys were completed over a 24-hour period, from sundown Monday January 28th, 2019 to sundown Tuesday, January 29th, 2019. Due to MDHI's large geographic area, a combination of HUD approved methods were used to create the most accurate picture possible for a one-night count.

For the sheltered count: MDHI utilized data in HMIS or local agency databases to complete a census count in sheltered locations wherever possible; and a "night of" in-person, survey-style count for all sheltered locations who could not provide usable database information, utilizing extrapolation methods to match required characteristics to a known number of persons in shelter.

For the unsheltered count: current HUD methodology guidance states "CoC covering a larger geographic area could use a combination of strategies, such as a known location count in high probability neighborhoods and specific areas where outreach staff have previously or currently identified people staying, as well as a service-based count at locations across the CoC geography." MDHI supported a street outreach effort, comprising a 'night of' count approach, coupled with a 'known locations' count, as well as utilizing magnet events (described on page to encourage the expansion of the scope and reach of the unsheltered count. Additionally, a service-based count was done during a 24-hour period for all providers at locations who directly serve or provide intersectional services to those experiencing homelessness.

Communities were offered the possibility of extending street outreach another 24 hours with prior approval due to challenges such as: lack of professional outreach or trained staff, remote or unsafe areas, and the forced or willing movement of people living outside to locations more challenging to find. Two communities requested and received approval for this extension of unsheltered/street outreach efforts; those were Denver and Jefferson Counties.

SOURCES OF DATA

PIT Survey Instrument (Paper and Mobile)
The paper survey instrument was developed by MDHI and was revised based on input from MDHI's PIT Committee, on PIT data from previous years, and on HUD requirements. In 2019, HUD did not require any changes to the PIT survey. The 2019 PIT survey included a new question about sexual orientation and a supplemental section designed to link unsheltered veterans with support services.

A mobile version of the survey instrument was developed by MDHI, and beta-tested by community partners. The PIT survey was programmed into a web-based application (Survey123 for ArcGIS) that could be completed on any mobile device or tablet with data service.

Shelter Data Extract
A data extract from one of the largest emergency shelter providers in Denver (Catholic Charities emergency shelter programs) was utilized to complement the survey instrument and mobile survey. The shelter provided a single data extract for individuals in certain programs that were staying in their shelters on the night of the PIT. The data extract provided all the HUD required data elements, which meant that individuals staying in that shelter did not need to complete a separate survey on the night of the count.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Data Extract
Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a database designed to record and store client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of homeless persons. Homeless assistance providers use HMIS to coordinate care, manage their operations, and better serve their clients. MDHI provided a HMIS data extract for individuals in some transitional housing programs and both safe haven programs. The HMIS data extract provided all the HUD required data elements, which meant that individuals staying in transitional housing did not need to complete a separate survey on the night of the count.

DATA ENTRY AND CLEANING

MDHI staff completed data entry for all paper PIT survey data. OMNI performed numerous procedures to ensure that data could be combined across the four data sources, and completed significant cleaning and checking procedures to identify data entry, data extract, and logic errors. For example, OMNI researchers examined datasets for missing data patterns, out of range/incorrect values, and conducted logic checks on all variables included.

Duplicates
A unique PIN was created for each household using information provided for name and date of birth. Duplicate cases were identified using the unique PIN in the merged data file. Several iterations of duplicate identification were then performed based on varying combinations of name and date of birth to further identify duplicate cases that did not end up with the same PIN due to different spelling of name or mis-typed information on any of the data fields used to create the PIN. Duplicates were also flagged based on respondents indicating that they had already completed a survey during this PIT administration.

Variable Creation
Several variables were created during the cleaning process. These included:
- **Chronically Homeless Person** - A person who:
    - Is homeless and lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; and
    - Has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years where the combined length of time homeless in those occasions is at least 12 months; and
    - Has a disability.
- **Chronic Family** – identified all members in a family where the head of household meets the criteria for chronically homeless.
- **Households without children** – Households with adults only. This includes households composed of unaccompanied adults (including unaccompanied youth age 18-24) and multiple adults (including households with multiple youth ages 18 to 24).

- **Households with at least one adult and one child** – Households with (at least) one adult (including youth ages 18 to 24) and one child.
- **Households with only children** – Households composed exclusively of persons under age 18, including one-child households, multi-child households or other household configurations composed only of children.
- **Parenting Youth** – A youth who identifies as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household.
- **Unaccompanied Youth** – Unaccompanied youth are persons under age 25 who are not accompanied by a parent or legal guardian and are not a parent presenting with or sleeping in the same place as his/her child(ren).

EXTRAPOLATION

HUD guidelines require that the data submitted for the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and PIT count report the same number of sheltered homeless cases. Because some individuals did not complete a PIT survey, the PIT count was less than the known number of people represented in sheltered locations on the HIC count in 2019. To account for this discrepancy, OMNI extrapolated PIT count cases within each HUD Housing Type (e.g. Transitional Housing, Emergency Shelter, etc.) to match the overall PIT count to the HIC total.

On the night of the 2019 PIT, at two of the largest Denver downtown emergency shelters, it was not possible to survey every single guest. These shelters maintain records of the overall number of adult males who stayed at each shelter overnight, so it was possible to accurately identify the "known number" of people. To address this, OMNI first extrapolated within each of the two identified emergency shelters. OMNI then extrapolated within each HUD Housing Type (e.g. Transitional Housing, Emergency Shelter, etc.) for each county in order to match the numbers of people known to be in sheltered situations with the reported HIC number. There were a few cases in which PIT counts for a county and/or HUD housing type exceeded HIC counts. In these cases, records were removed to align PIT and HIC numbers based on a random identification methodology. Checks on demographic and descriptive variables were completed to ensure that the record removal process did not alter the population characteristics.

Extrapolation involves using survey information from a subset of the homeless population. This subset is then used to extrapolate (estimate information) to the larger homeless population. Extrapolation was used to estimate information about the total sample based on information from a subset of individuals.

Extrapolation was completed by taking a random set of cases from the sample. For example, if there was a surveyed sample of 75 people and the total known population from the HIC was 100, a random set of 25 cases were selected and used to extrapolate. Frequencies of key demographic and descriptive variables (e.g. gender, chronic homelessness, veteran status, etc.) were taken before and after extrapolation to ensure that the extrapolated population was similar to the original sample.

INTERPRETING 2019 DATA

As noted in the limitations section above, there are many points to consider when interpreting the Point in Time data. It is imperative to remember that it is a snapshot of a single night in January 2019 and should be combined with other data sources to create a fuller picture of homelessness in a community. Each year the methodology of the PIT count adjusts to improve data quality, attempt to survey previously undercounted populations, and meet updated HUD guidelines. Because of these

modifications, caution should be used when comparing PIT data across years. Differences across years may reflect methodological differences instead of actual changes in homeless populations.

Extrapolating based on the HIC this year represents a methodological change from previous PIT administrations. In 2019, the final HIC numbers were used as the most accurate count of sheltered homeless individuals. As referenced in the HIC section in this report's narrative, the 2019 HIC was prepared by MDHI, it was reported from HMIS for the first time, each project was cross-referenced with available data, and agencies were all individually asked to confirm their numbers and bed utilization for the evening of the PIT. To align PIT numbers with the HIC, extrapolation was used to provide an estimate of the characteristics of individuals experiencing homelessness and ensure that the same numbers were reported to HUD and included in this report.

In addition to changes in methodology, changes in local conditions may also influence the number of individuals counted each year. For example, unseasonably warm or cold weather may change the number of individuals who seek shelter on a PIT count night; changes in the number of volunteers year to year influence data collection capacity; and changes in county or agency level participation may also impact the total number of individuals experiencing homelessness that are included in the PIT count.

The numbers from the PIT count are reported to HUD along with numbers from the Housing Inventory Count (HIC). HUD requires CoCs to balance the sheltered numbers of those represented in the HIC with those that participated in the PIT. The sheltered numbers of the PIT count must match the number of filled beds utilized as reported by projects that offer shelter services. In 2018 and 2019, the PIT and HIC numbers were aligned so that the same numbers are reported to HUD and included in this report. Community reports from 2017 and previous included information for either "all homeless" or "respondents" as noted in each section. If comparing data between years, this methodology change needs to be considered. The "respondents" were only the individuals taking the survey, which does not include other household members such as children or adults. Only respondent data was reported for several categories in 2017 and earlier reports, including: veteran status, unaccompanied youth, newly homeless, chronically homeless, and characteristics of the population. These are noted, as applicable, in each report.

SUMMARY OF EXCLUDED DATA

# INDIVIDUALS IN RAW DATA FILE	5937
INDIVIDUALS REMOVED AND REASON:	
DATA QUALITY ISSUES	93
OBSERVATION/REFUSAL	380
DUPLICATE	286
HOMELESS STATUS COULD NOT BE DETERMINED	99
INSUFFICIENT PIN INFORMATION	232
NOT HOMELESS	215
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS REMOVED	1305
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS ADDED VIA EXTRAPOLATION	1123
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS REMAINING IN DATASET	5755

Glossary of Key Definitions

Adult = Anyone who is 18 years of age or older

By Name List - A single list of all homeless persons for a specified population in a region that identifies each of them by name. This is a goal of Coordinated Entry and allows each client to be connected to the correct housing resources.

Continuum of Care – A local HUD- designated planning body responsible for coordinating housing and homelessness services and funding in a geographic area, which may cover a city, county, metropolitan area, or an entire state.

Chronically Homeless Person - A person who:

A) Is homeless and lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; **and**

B) Has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years where the combined length of time homeless in those occasions is at least 12 months; **and**

C) Has a disability.

Chronic Homeless Family: refers to a family where the head of household meets the criteria for a chronically homeless person.

Disability – An individual with one or more of the following conditions:

A. A physical, mental, or emotional impairment, including an impairment caused by alcohol or drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, or brain injury that:

(1) Is expected to be long-continuing or of indefinite duration;

(2) Substantially impedes the individual's ability to live independently; and

(3) Could be improved by the provision of more suitable housing conditions.

B. A developmental disability, as defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002); or

C. The disease of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) or any condition arising from the etiologic agency for Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome.

Domestic Violence –This population category of the PIT includes adults who are currently experiencing homelessness because they are fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Everyone Counts - the official branding of the metro Denver Point in Time count starting in 2018

Gender Identity – a person's perception of having a particular gender, which may or may not correspond with their birth sex

- **Transgender -** denoting or relating to a person whose sense of gender identity does not correspond with their birth sex

- **Gender Non-Conforming** – The HUD definition for this is a person who identifies their gender as not exclusive male or female

HMIS – Homeless Management Information System - an information technology system used to collect data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness

HUD – Abbreviation for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

HUD Homeless Definitions:

- **Literally Homeless** - Under the Category 1 definition of homelessness in the HEARTH Act, includes individuals and families living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements, or with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.
- **At-Risk of Homelessness** – a definition of homelessness partially captured under category 2 of the HEARTH Act and used more widely by the Department of Education, and others, that encompasses those with no fixed, regular, and adequate place to stay, does not have the resources to stay where they are for longer than 14 days and who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, or reside with others temporarily. This is not included in the Point in Time count.

HUD Household Types:

- **Households without children:** Households with adults only. This includes households composed of unaccompanied adults (including unaccompanied youth age 18-24) and multiple adults (including households with multiple youth ages 18 to 24).
- **Households with at least one adult and one child:** Households with (at least) one adult (including youth ages 18 to 24) and one child. Referred to in this report as "families."
- **Households with only children:** Households composed exclusively of persons under age 18, including one-child households, multi-child households or other household configurations composed only of children.

HUD Reporting Definitions:

- **Longitudinal Systems Analysis** - produced from a CoC's Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) and submitted annually to HUD, provides HUD and Continuums of Care (CoCs) with critical information about how people experiencing homelessness use their system of care
- **Annual Homeless Assessment Report -** a HUD report to the U.S. Congress that provides nationwide estimates of homelessness, including information about the demographic characteristics of homeless persons, service use patterns, and the capacity to house homeless persons
- **Housing Inventory Count -** The reports tally the number of beds and units available on the night designated for the count by program type, and include beds dedicated to serve persons who are homeless as well as persons in Permanent Supportive Housing

Magnet event - Events run on the day of the PIT count with resources, food, and other incentives to specifically draw people experiencing unsheltered homelessness to locations to be surveyed

McKinney-Vento - The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is the primary piece of legislation related to the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness. Specific provisions ensure the enrollment, accessibility, and educational stability for students lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The number referenced in this data set is de-duplicated across the State of Colorado, accounts for an entire school year, and only includes children enrolled in school and not others in their household.

Metropolitan Denver area - The CoC's geography covers a seven-county area including Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, and Jefferson counties. This area covers approximately 4,500 square miles.

Newly Homeless - someone who is experiencing their first episode of homelessness and their episode is less than a year in duration

People with Lived Experience - people who are either currently experiencing homelessness or who have experienced homelessness in the past.

Project Types or Homeless Living Situations:

- **Emergency Shelter** - A project that offers temporary shelter (lodging) for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless. In metro Denver, there are variations of shelter types, including family shelters where households may stay for 14-90 days on average, and nightly shelter for individuals which may be nightly only or longer term depending on the program. Types of emergency shelter include:
    - **Nightly Shelter** – a nightly stay only, there are locations where people may walk up for entry or get on busses to a nearby location from a central point. This is primarily utilized by individual adults. These usually offer less programming.
    - **Program or longer-term Emergency Shelter** – These have longer allowable stays and may have required, or elective programming accompanied by other supportive services to help a client progress towards stable housing.
    - **Severe Weather Shelter** - is a type of temporary shelter that is only available in the Metro Denver community during the winter months. One shelter currently opens throughout the winter season. All others are considered Severe Weather Shelters and are activated (opened) based on temperature and weather conditions. Activation varies between 20 degrees – 40 degrees depending on the shelter. This is lifesaving shelter programming.
    - **Overflow Shelter** - Overflow beds are available on an ad hoc or temporary basis during the year in response to demand that exceeds planned (year-round or seasonal) bed capacity.
    - **Motel or Hotel Vouchers** – when paid for by charitable organizations or by Federal, state, or local government programs and designated to provide temporary living arrangements for those experiencing homelessness this is considered an emergency shelter situation.

- - **Domestic Violence Shelters** - emergency shelters providing temporary emergency housing for survivors who are currently fleeing situations of domestic or interpersonal violence, and in need of a safe and confidential shelter location.
  - **Transitional Housing** - A project that provides temporary lodging and is designed to facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families into permanent housing within a specified period of time, but typically no longer than 24 months. In transitional housing, there are generally higher eligibility and program requirements than in emergency shelter. Participants may be asked to pay rent or fees to stay in these programs.
  - **Safe Haven** - A project that offers supportive housing that (1) serves hard to reach homeless persons with severe mental illness who came from the streets and have been unwilling or unable to participate in supportive services; (2) provides 24-hour residence for eligible persons for an unspecified period; (3) has an overnight capacity limited to 25 or fewer persons; and (4) provides low demand services and referrals for the residents.

Respondent - a member of the community who was surveyed during the Point in Time count

Sexual Orientation (LGBQ+) - a person's sexual identity in relation to the gender to which they are attracted. The listed letters in the survey include: lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer/questioning and +, which is meant to include all other orientations on the spectrum of sexuality other than heterosexual

Stakeholders - Those that have interest in, or are affected by, an organization and its' work.

Veteran - a person who indicated they have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

VSS - Veteran Supplemental Survey - An additional set of 3 questions included in the 2019 PIT survey to help outreach workers make contact with homeless veterans and connect them to services and housing.

Youth Specific definitions:
- **Parenting Youth** – A youth who identifies as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household.
- **Unaccompanied Youth** – Unaccompanied youth are persons under age 25 who are not accompanied by a parent or legal guardian and are not a parent presenting with or sleeping in the same place as his/her child(ren).

YSS - Youth Supplemental Survey - and additional set of questions developed by the Office of Homeless Youth Services and youth stakeholders to more accurately assess the demographics of the youth in the Metro Denver Region and included in the PIT survey beginning in 2017.

Participating Agencies

A Stronger Cord

ACCESS Housing of Adams County

Adams County Coalition for the Homeless

Adams County Head Start

Adams County Human Service Department

Adams County Manager's Office

Adams County Outreach

Adams County Workforce and Business Center

Agape Family Services

Allhealth Network

Almost Home

Arapahoe County Community Resources Department

Arvada Housing Authority

Arvada Police Department

Attention Homes

Aurora Day Resource Center

Aurora Interfaith Task Force

Aurora Mental Health Center

Auora Parks, Recreation, and Open Space

Aurora Public library

Aurora Warms the Night

Bayaud Enterprises

Bemis Library

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Boulder BridgeHouse

Boulder County AIDS Project

Boulder Housing and Human Services

Boulder Housing Partners

Boulder Shelter for the Homeless

Broomfield FISH

Broomfield Human Services

Café 180

Capitol Hill United Ministries

Catholic Charities of Denver

Change the Trend Network

Christ in the City

Christ's Body Ministry

City and County of Broomfield

City and County of Denver

City of Arvada

City of Aurora

City of Commerce City

City of Lakewood Early Childhood Education Programs

City of Northglenn

City of Thornton

City of Westminster

Cold Weather Care

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless

Colorado Division of Housing, Office of Homeless Youth Services

Colorado fund for People with Disabilities

Colorado Health Network

Colorado Homeless Families

Colorado Legal Services

Community Reach Center

Community Table

Denver Health & Hospital Authority

Denver Human Services

Denver Indian Family Resource Center

Denver Police Department

Denver Public Library

Denver Rescue Mission

Denver Street Outreach Collaborative

Discovery church

Dougals County Sheriff

Douglas County Community and Resource Services

Elevation Christian Church

Emergency Family Assistance Association

Englewood Library

Evergreen Christian Outreach (ECHO)

Family Homestead

Family Promise of Greater Denver

Family Tree

Father Woody's Haven of Hope

First Presbyterian Church

Gateway Domestic Violence Services

Giving Heart

Golden Police Department

Gracefull Cafe

Growing Home

H.O.P.E. of Longmont

Harm Reduction Action Center

Heading Home of Jefferson County

Help & Hope Center

Hope Program

Jeffco Parks & Recreation

Jefferson County Housing Authority

Jefferson County Human services

Jefferson County Mental Health

Jefferson County Public Library

Jefferson County Sheriff

Jewish Famliy Services

Lafayette Police Department

Lakewood Police Department

Lakewood Recreation

Latina Safehouse Initiative

Life Center Food Bank

Lutheran Medical Center

Mean Street Ministries

Mental Health Center of Denver

Mental Health Partners

Mile High Behavioral Healthcare

Mile High Ministries

Mile High United Way

Morrison Police Department

Mother House

Mountain Resource Center

Network coffehouse

Norhern Hills Church

Open Door Ministries

Our Center

Parker Task Force

Providence Network

Red Rocks Community College

Rocky Mountain Human Services

Sacred Heart House of Denver

Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley

Safehouse Denver

Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence

Second Chance Center

Senior Support Services

Severe Weather Shelter Network

Sister Carmen Community Center

Southeast Community Outreach (SECOR)

St. Francis Center

Stride Community Health Centers

The Action Center

The Crisis Center

The Delores Project

The Empowerment Program

The Gathering Place

The Refuge

The Rising Church

The Salvation Army

Tri-County Health Department

Unison Housing Partners

Urban Peak Denver

US Department of Veteran Affairs

Valor Point

Volunteers of America

Warren Village

Westminister swim and fitness center

Westminster Police Department

Wheat Ridge Police Department

Winter Shelter Network

everyone counts

Ask " May I ask you some questions for the Point in Time survey?"

→ *This helps us understand how many people experience homelessness, get funding for housing, and develop better services*

→*If the household you were seeking to survey refuses, please proceed to the Gray Box labeled 'Refusal/Observation Section' on Page2*

1. Did another volunteer already do this survey with you recently? ☐ No ☐ Yes *If YES, thank them for their time and proceed to the next person.*

2. Where did you/will you spend Monday night, January 28th? *(Check only ONE response) If none selected, do not complete the rest of the form*

☐ Emergency shelter or Cold Weather Shelter (Name of shelter: _____
☐ Transitional housing (time-limited) (Name of program: _____
☐ Hotel/motel **paid for by a voucher or nonprofit** (Who paid?: _____
☐ Other: _____

☐ On the street/sidewalk
☐ In a car
☐ In a park
☐ Abandoned building
☐ Under a bridge

→*If staying with family/friends, or in a self-paid hotel/motel, stop survey and thank them for their time.*

3. What city (a) & county (b) did you/will you spend Monday night, January 28th?
a) City: _____
b) County: ☐ Adams ☐ Arapahoe ☐ Boulder ☐ Broomfield ☐ Denver ☐ Douglas ☐ Jefferson Other: _____

4. Is this the first time you've been homeless? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I am not currently experiencing homelessness

5. How long have you been homeless THIS TIME? ☐ Less than a year ☐ 1 year or more ☐ I am not currently experiencing homelessness

Fill in total time homeless (this time) _____ Years _____ Months

6. INCLUDING THIS TIME, how many separate times have you stayed in shelters or on the streets in the last three years (since Jan 2016)? *(Check only ONE response)*
☐ Less than 4 times ☐ More than 4 times ☐ Unknown/Not willing to answer ☐ Never

7. In total, how long did you experience homelessness total in the last three years (since January 2016)?

Fill In: _____ Years _____ Months _____ Don't Know _____ Not Homeless

8. Where was your last permanent residence before you became homeless? Zip Code _____ OR City & State _____
→*A last permanent residence includes a place you lived for more than 3 months, or were on a lease.*

9. Did any family members and/or animals stay in the same place with you on Monday night, Jan 28th? *(Check ALL that apply)*
☐ Just me ☐ Partner/spouse ☐ Children under age 18 ☐ Biological parents/siblings ☐ Service/companion animal

Please Continue the Survey on Page 2

Relationship to you (spouse or partner, child, parent, sibling, other) WRITE IN	First 3 letters First Name	First 3 letters Last Name	Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY	Gender Male (M) Female (F) Transgender (TG) Gender Non-conforming (GNC) Don't Identify (DI)	Orientation Do you identify as LGBQ+? Yes (Y) or No (N)	Ethnicity Hispanic/Latinx (H) Non Hispanic/Latinx (N)	Race American Indian/Alaskan Native (AIAN); Asian (A); Black (B); White (W); Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (NHPI); Multi-Racial (M)	ONLY COMPLETE FOR INDIVIDUALS AGED 18+ FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL, CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY					
Head of Household (Yourself)								Veteran	Disability	Mental Health Concern	Alcohol/ drug use	Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence	HIV/ AIDS
Family Member 2 ( )								Veteran	Disability	Mental Health Concern	Alcohol/ drug use	Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence	HIV/ AIDS
Family Member 3 ( )								Veteran	Disability	Mental Health Concern	Alcohol/ drug use	Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence	HIV/ AIDS
Family Member 4 ( )								Veteran	Disability	Mental Health Concern	Alcohol/ drug use	Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence	HIV/ AIDS
Family Member 5 ( )								Veteran	Disability	Mental Health Concern	Alcohol/ drug use	Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence	HIV/ AIDS

HINTS for Demographic Questions

Gender: What is your gender? (this is self-report) Gender Non-Conforming (GNC) is a person who does not identify as Male, Female, or Transgender. They may also choose Don't identify if none of the choices fit their gender identity.

Orientation: YES or NO only - Do you identify your sexual orientation as: lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, questioning, or anything else besides heterosexual/straight?

Veteran: Have you ever served in the U.S. Military?

Disability: Do you have a physical or mental disability of long-lasting duration?

Mental Health Concern: Do you have a mental health diagnosis by a professional or are you aware you have mental health concerns that may be undiagnosed?

Alcohol/Drug Use: Do you think your alcohol or drugs use is sometimes problematic for you or your relationships?

Currently Fleeing: Are you currently fleeing for your safety as a result of domestic violence, intimate partner violence, relationship violence, sexual assault or something like that?

HIV/AIDS: Have you ever tested positive for HIV?

REFUSAL/OBSERVATION SECTION- ONLY COMPLETE IF YOU CANNOT COMPLETE AN INTERVIEW –
Use only on night/day of Point in Time.

1. Check one: ☐ Refusal   ☐ Observation

2. Reason for Refusal/Observation:
☐ Unable to enter site   ☐ Do not wish to disturb people sleeping   ☐ Language barrier (Language spoken:_____)   ☐ Other:_____

3. Does this person have family members with them?   ☐ No   ☐ Don't Know   ☐ Yes, Children (# of children _____)   ☐ Yes, Adults (# of Adults _____)

Veteran Supplemental Section - ONLY COMPLETE IF YOU SURVEYED A VETERAN LIVING UNSHELTERED.

1. Would you like an outreach worker to meet with you to talk about housing options and other needs?   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

2. What is the best way to contact and/or find you?   Full Name:_____   Phone/Location:_____

3. What are the best days and times to find you? ?   Days/Times:_____

everyone counts

| Agencia/Sitio: _____ | Programa (si aplica): _____ | Fecha (MM/DD/AA): ___/___/2019 |
| Voluntario/Nombre de persona del personal: _____ | | Condado: _____ |

Pregunte "¿Le puedo hacer unas preguntas para la encuesta de un Instante de Tiempo?"

→ *Esto nos ayuda a comprender cuántas personas experimentan la falta de hogar, conseguir financiación para viviendas y desarrollar servicios mejores.*

→ *Si la vivienda se rehusa a tomar la encuesta, favor de proceder a la Caja Gris marcado como "Sección de rechazo/observación" en la página #2.*

1. **¿Ha realizado esta encuesta con algún otro voluntario recientemente?** ☐ No ☐ Sí *Si respondieron que Sí, agradézcanle por su tiempo y pasen a la próxima persona.*

2. **¿Dónde se quedó o dónde se quedará la noche del lunes, 28 de enero?** *(Marque solamente UNA respuesta.)* **Si no eligen ninguna, no llene el resto del formulario.**

☐ Albergue de emergencia o de clima frío (Nombre del albergue: _____
☐ Vivienda de transición (tiempo limitado) (Nombre del progama: _____
☐ Hotel/motel **pagado con un vale o por una organización sin fines de lucro** (¿Quién pagó? _____
☐ Otro: _____

→*Si se está quedando con familia/amigos o en un hotel/motel que ellos están pagando, paren de tomar la encuesta y agradézcanle por su tiempo.*

☐ En la calle/acera
☐ En un carro
☐ En un parque
☐ En un edificio abandonado
☐ Debajo de un puente

3. **¿En qué cuidad (a) y condado (b) se quedó o se quedará la noche del lunes, 28 de enero?**
  a) Ciudad: _____
  b) Condado: ☐ Adams ☐ Arapahoe ☐ Boulder ☐ Broomfield ☐ Denver ☐ Douglas ☐ Jefferson Otro: _____

4. **¿Es esta la primera vez que ha estado sin hogar?** ☐Sí ☐ No ☐ Actualmente sí tengo hogar.

5. **¿Durante cuánto tiempo ha estado sin hogar ESTA VEZ?** ☐ Menos que un año ☐ 1 año o más ☐ Actualmente sí tengo hogar.
  Indique el tiempo total sin hogar (esta vez) _____ Años _____ Meses

6. **INCLUYENDO ESTA VEZ, ¿cuántas veces se ha quedado en albergues o en la calle durante los últimos tres años (desde enero de 2016)?** *(Marque sola una respuesta.)*
  ☐ Menos de 4 veces ☐ Más de 4 veces ☐ No lo sé/no estoy dispuesto a responder. ☐ Nunca

7. **En total, ¿durante cuánto tiempo estuvo sin hogar durante los últimos tres años (desde enero de 2016)?**
  Llenar: _____ Años _____ Meses _____ No lo sé _____ Sí tuve hogar

8. **¿Dónde fue su última residencia permanente antes de estar sinhogar?** Código postal _____ o Ciudad y estado _____ Sí tengo hogar _____
  →*La última residencia permanente es el último lugar donde vivió durante más de tres meses o la última vez que su nombre se encontraba en un contrato de alquiler.*

Favor de continuar la encuesta en la página 2

9. ¿Algún miembro familiar y/o animal se quedó en el mismo lugar con usted la noche del lunes, 28 de enero? (Marque todas las cajas correspondientes.)

☐ Solo yo ☐ Compañero/cónyuge ☐ Niño menor de 18 años ☐ Padre/hermano biológico ☐ Animal de servicio/compañero

Relación con usted (cónyuge o compañero/a, hijo, padre, hermano, otro) INDICAR POR ESCRITO	Primera 3 letras del Primer nombre	Primera 3 letras del apellido	Nacimiento MM/DD/AAAA	Género Masculino (M) Femenino (F) Transgénero (TG) Género No Convencional (GNC) No identifico (DI)	Orientación ¿Se identifica como LGBQ+? Sí (Y) o No (N)	Etnia Hispano/latinx (H) No hispano/latinx (N)	Raza Indígena Americano/Nativo de Alaska (AIAN); Asiático (A); Negro (B); Blanco (W); Nativo de Hawái/Isleño del Pacífico (NHPI); Multiracial (M)	SOLO LLENAR PARA PERSONAS 18 AÑOS O MAYOR MARQUE CON CÍRCULO TODOS LOS CORRESPONDIENTES PARA ESA PERSONA					
Cabeza de la familia (Usted mismo)								Veterano	Discapacidad	Preocupación de salud mental	Consumo de alcohol o drogas	Actualmente huyendo de violencia doméstica	VIH/SIDA
Miembro familiar 2 ( )								Veterano	Discapacidad	Preocupación de salud mental	Consumo de alcohol o drogas	Actualmente huyendo de violencia doméstica	VIH/SIDA
Miembro familiar 3 ( )								Veterano	Discapacidad	Preocupación de salud mental	Consumo de alcohol o drogas	Actualmente huyendo de violencia doméstica	VIH/SIDA
Miembro familiar 4 ( )								Veterano	Discapacidad	Preocupación de salud mental	Consumo de alcohol o drogas	Actualmente huyendo de violencia doméstica	VIH/SIDA
Miembro familiar 5 ( )								Veterano	Discapacidad	Preocupación de salud mental	Consumo de alcohol o drogas	Actualmente huyendo de violencia doméstica	VIH/SIDA

PISTAS para las preguntas demográficas

Género: ¿Cuál es su género? (esto es autoinformado) Género No Convencional (GNC) es una persona que no se identifica como masculino, femenino ni transgénero. También pueden escoger No Identifico si ninguna de las opciones encaja con su identidad de género.

Orientación: Solamente se puede responder con Sí o NO. ¿Se identifica usted en relación con su orientación sexual como: lesbiana, homosexual, bisexual, queer, en duda o cualquier cosa aparte de heterosexual?

Veterano: ¿Ha servido usted alguna vez en las fuerzas militares de EE.UU.?

Discapacidad: ¿Tiene usted alguna discapacidad física o mental de larga duración?

Inquietud de salud mental: ¿Le han diagnosticado con algún problema de salud mental o está consciente de tener inquietudes de salud mental que posiblemente no estén diagnosticados?

Consumo de alcohol/drogas: En su opinión, ¿su consumo de alcohol o drogas es a veces problemático para usted mismo o para sus relaciones personales?

Huida actual: ¿Está usted huyendo actualmente por su seguridad como resultado de violencia doméstica, violencia íntima de pareja, violencia en la relación, agresión sexual o algo parecido?

VIH/SIDA: ¿Alguna vez ha recibido resultados médicos positivos para el VIH?

SECCIÓN DE RECHAZO/OBSERVACIÓN: SOLO LLENE ESTA SECCIÓN SI NO PUEDE REALIZAR LA ENTREVISTA
Utilizar solo un día/noche como Instante de Tiempo

1. Marque uno: ☐ Rechazo ☐ Observación

2. Razón por el rechazo/observación:
☐ No puedo entrar al sitio   ☐ No quiero molestar las personas durmiendo   ☐ Barrera de idioma (idioma que hablan: _____)   ☐ Otro: _____

3. ¿Hay más familiares con la persona entrevistada?   ☐ No   ☐ No lo   ☐ Sí, niños (# de niños_____)   ☐ Sí, adultos (# de adultos_____)

2019 Point in Time Count Youth Supplemental Survey (unaccompanied youth under 25 1/31/1994)
Includes youth experiencing literal homelessness or housing instability (couch surfing)
YOUTH SHOULD COMPLETE BOTH THE PIT SURVEY AND THE YOUTH SUPPLEMENTAL SURVEY:

#	Question	Answer Options	Prefer Not to Say
1	Unique Identifier from PIT (first 3 letters of first name, first 3 letters of last name, DOB (MMDDYYYY))		
2	In which city/county would you say you live in or spend most of your time?		
3	In which city/county was your last stable housing?	□ Same as current city/county □ Other CO city/county □ Different state from Colorado	
4	At what age did you first experience homelessness?		
5	Have you ever experienced homelessness while living with your parents or other legal guardian?	□ Yes □ No □ Unsure	
6	How would you describe your gender identity?	□ Male □ Female □ Transgender Male □ Transgender Female □ Non-Binary □Non-Conforming □ Gender Fluid □Two-Spirit □Another Identity (Please Specify):	
7	How would you describe your sexual orientation?	□ Straight □ Gay □ Lesbian □ Asexual □ Queer □ Bisexual □ Questioning □ Heteroflexible □ Pansexual □ Another Orientation (Please specify):	
8	Where did you sleep last night?	□ Outside/park □ At a shelter □ In a car □ Camp □ Abandoned/ empty building □ In Hotel Paid by an agency □ In a housing program, name: _____ □ In a House with friends □ In a house with family □ In a host home □ In Hotel Paid for by you/friends □ Another Location (Please specify): _____	
9	Which things do you feel you have access to regularly:	□ Food □ Water □ Warmth □ Social Relationships □ Safety	
10	Have you ever been in foster care like in out of home placement, placed with another family as a result of child welfare, residential child care facility, or a group home?	□ Yes □ No □ Unsure	
11	If yes, please select the option that best describes how you left care.	□ Reunified with family □ Adopted □ Aged Out □ Ran away from placement □ Unsure □ Another Option (Please specify):	
12	Have you ever been involved in the juvenile or criminal justice system for allegedly committing a crime?	□ Juvenile Justice □ Adult Criminal Justice □ No/Neither □ Unsure	
13	Are you currently responsible for any children under the age of 18?	□ Yes □ No □ Pregnant or Expecting a Child	
14	If yes, what relation are they to you?	□ Own child □ Sibling/other family □ Significant other's child □ Other (specify):	
15	Are you currently enrolled in, registered at, or attending school?	□ Yes □ No □ Unsure	
16	What was your last grade completed?		
17	Are you currently earning money?	□ Yes □ No □ Unsure	
18	What is your current income source? (Select all that apply)	□ Public assistance/unearned □ Work/job □ Panhandling □ Sex Trade □ Drug Trade □ Other (Please specify):	
19	If you had an emergency at 2 in the morning, do you know a trusted adult/mentor that you could go to for help?	□ Yes □ No □ Unsure	
20	If yes, select the person you are most likely to go to for help?	□ Family □ Friend □ Caseworker/Agency Staff □ School Staff/Coach □ Another Option (Please specify):	
21	In the past year, what has been a barrier or difficulty in accessing housing/services? (Select all that apply)	□ Lack of affordable housing □ Lack of Income □ Age □ Background Check □ Citizenship □ Lack of vital docs □ Lack of transportation □ Language barrier □ Substance Use □ Mental Health □ Missed Appointments □ Because of a Disability □ Asked to leave program □ Discriminated against □ Did not know where to go for help □ Currently on a waitlist □ Did not qualify forhelp □ Did not have any issues accessing services □Other: _____	